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Japan

Bush Sends Kaifu Letter on Uruguay Round Talks

OW1411234090 Tokyo KYODO in English 2305 GMT 14 Nov 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, Nov 14 (KYODO)—U.S. President George Bush has written to Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu seeking Japan's cooperation in successfully concluding the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, Japanese and U.S. officials said Wednesday.

The officials said Vice President Dan Quayle delivered Bush's letter to Kaifu when they met in Tokyo on Wednesday. Quayle represented the United States at Monday's enthronement of Emperor Akihito.

In the letter, Bush congratulated Japan on the formal coronation of the emperor, they said.

A U.S. official said the presidential letter has been "carefully written" and underscored the importance of the Uruguay Round negotiations on trade in agriculture and other key sectors. The official said Bush urged Kaifu to cooperate in "working together and making the Uruguay Round a success."

A senior diplomatic source in Washington said Bush called on Kaifu to demonstrate his political leadership in bringing the Uruguay Round under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to a successful conclusion.

Bush's letter to Kaifu is the latest in a series of U.S. efforts to conclude the four-year Uruguay Round in early December as scheduled despite growing signs of a possible delay. Bush met Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and European Community (EC) Commission President Jacques Delors at the White House on Tuesday. Bush said after the meeting that they shared "our strong conviction that we must succeed in substantial trade liberalization and strengthening of the multilateral world trading system."

Japanese and U.S. officials said Bush in his letter to Kaifu mentioned agriculture, the thorniest of the 15 negotiating sectors under the Uruguay Round, but did not refer to Japan's rice import curbs. A U.S. official said, however, that agriculture is a code word for rice in Japan.

Quayle told reporters in Tokyo, "the 'R' word did pass my lips" in his talks with Kaifu.

Asked about the liberalization of the Japanese rice market, a senior Japanese diplomat said, "Japan can liberalize its rice market if it has the determination to do so." Officials here said Bush also emphasized the need for progress in talks on intellectual property protection and trade in services in his letter to Kaifu.

The U.S. Treasury Department has long called for Japan to liberalize its financial services market, which is one of the world's largest but is viewed by U.S. and some European countries as being very protected. "These are areas which can be dealt with through working-level consultations," the Japanese diplomat said of the intellectual property and services issues. Another senior Japanese diplomat said that protection of intellectual property is an issue between developed and developing countries rather than among the industrialized countries.

USSR To Receive Aid for Chernobyl Victims

OW1511000890 Tokyo KYODO in English 2331 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov 15 (KYODO)—Japan will provide the Soviet Union with 2 billion yen in grant assistance to help promote treatment of radiation victims of the Chernobyl nuclear plant disaster, the YOMIURI SHIMBUN reported Thursday.

The decision represents a major shift from Japan's earlier policy that it would not extend financial support to the Soviet Union in the absence of an agreement on a decades-long territorial dispute over four Soviet-held islands off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido, the newspaper said.

Japan will convey the decision in a high-level meeting, set for December 3 in Moscow, which is aimed chiefly at discussing confidence-building measures between Tokyo and Moscow, it said.

Lukyanov Says Ties Not Keeping Pace With Region

OW1111132990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1248 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Anatoliy Lukyanov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet, told a Japanese religious leader Sunday that relations between Japan and the Soviet Union are not improving as quickly as those between other countries in the region.

In an hour-long meeting at a Tokyo hotel with Daisaku Ikeda, the leader of the Japanese lay Buddhist organization Soka Gakkai, Lukyanov pointed to the importance of expanding friendly ties and promoting mutual understanding between the two countries ahead of the visit by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to Japan, set for next April, Soka Gakkai officials said.

Ikeda, who met Gorbachev in late July in Moscow, was quoted as saying he wants to actively promote private-level cultural exchanges to develop friendly ties with the Soviet Union.

Lukyanov arrived in Tokyo earlier in the day to attend the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito on Monday.

Says Gorbachev To Request Aid

OW1211060090 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] In an exlusive interview with NHK, Yakovlev, Soviet President Gorbachev's brain trust and member of the Presidential Council, indicated that the Soviet Union will likely ask for Japanese financial aid during President Gorbachev's visit to Japan. The visit is scheduled for next spring.

In the interview, Mr. Yakovlev discussed President Gorbachev's scheduled April visit and said that preparations for the visit have just begun. He said that both the Soviet Union and Japan need to make their desires clear—in other words, what results, agreements, and cooperation will be possible.

On financial aid from Japan, he said the Soviet Union is trying to switch over its economy to a market economy. While the rubles are superabundant, goods run short at shops. He said textile and food processing industries should be repaired to alleviate the situation. He also said the Soviet Union needs financial assistance to accomplish this. He then indicated that the Soviet Union is likely to request financial aid in order to rebuild the Soviet economy during the presidential visit to Japan.

Turning to the Gulf crisis, Mr. Yakovlev said that the way to a peaceful resolution is still open. He stressed that negotiations with Iraq should continue by resorting to every possible diplomatic means.

Urges Investment in Perestroyka

OW1411151490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1342 GMT 14 Nov 90

[By Tim Johnson]

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 14 KYODO—Supreme Soviet Chairman Anatoliy Lukyanov on Wednesday called on Japan to join other countries in investing in the success of Perestroyka by extending economic and other assistance to the Soviet Union, Foreign Ministry officials said. Lukyanov, who came to Tokyo as the official Soviet representative at the enthronement ceremony for Emperor Akihito, made the request in separate meetings with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

"Perestroyka offers aid to the world, so the world can extend aid to perestroyka," Lukyanov was quoted as saying in his meeting with Kaifu. He added that the world would find it to its benefit to "participate in perestroyka."

Lukyanov told Nakayama, meanwhile, that the Soviet Union is in need of many things, including assistance that would help address the economic problems it is now facing.

Officials said Kaifu and Nakayama both stressed the necessity of the Soviets' returning four disputed islands claimed by Japan before Japan can go forward with full-fledged cooperation with Moscow. In an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE just after the meeting with Nakayama, Lukyanov explained, "I just meant to say that many countries are extending various types of cooperation to the Soviet Union because perestroyka has been of assistance to these countries," he said. "I expressed my opinion that under these circumstances Japan might do the same for us," he said, adding that he was not making an official request for aid.

Lukyanov's call for Japanese aid echoed an implicit request by Soviet Ambassador to Japan Lyudvig Chizhov when he met with Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada last month.

Soviet diplomatic sources in Tokyo revealed earlier this month that Moscow wants Japan to provide emergency humanitarian assistance in the form of foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, and essential consumer goods to make up for severe shortages ahead of the harsh winter.

But officials said Lukyanov did not elaborate in the meetings with Kaifu and Nakayama about the specific type of assistance Moscow desires. They said, however, that he apparently requested more than the type of technical and intellectual assistance for Perestroyka that Japan has hitherto provided, as in its acceptance of economic reform missions to Tokyo from the Soviet Union.

Lukyanov told KYODO, "In certain cases, one need not speak in concrete terms about aid or cooperation in order to have them considered." He offered as examples some "very interesting" accords that have been or will be concluded with Spain, France, Italy, Germany, and Britain.

"Under those circumstances, the question might arise as to what one other major power should do," he said.

Foreign Ministry officials explained that last September Japan agreed to conclude seven agreements when Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev visits Japan in April, among them an official government accord on Japanese technical assistance to perestroyka.

Lukyanov said the two sides are now considering a total of 11 agreements. Foreign Ministry officials declined to say whether any of them pertained to aid.

Officials said Lukyanov indicated that there are two ways of resolving the bilateral territorial dispute. Lukaynov said the first way would be to over-concentrate attention on a certain dispute at the expense of other aspects of the relationship. He implied that such is the approach being adopted by Japan, officials said. The second way, he said, would be to make it much easier to tackle the dispute by facing relations in a multifaceted way. "In settling international problems it is necessary to first address them from a broad perspective, return to the difficult points, once again adopt a broad perspective, and then go back to the difficult points," he told Nakayama.

Foreign Ministry sources said that Lukyanov appeared by his remarks to be "either understudied or misinformed" about Japan's policy of expanding ties with Moscow in various fields, while maintaining a balance with respect to the progress made in moving toward a territorial settlement.

Nakayama rebutted Lukyanov's approach as one that would merely "waste bilateral relations year after year."

Officials said he told Lukyanov that a peace treaty simply cannot be concluded without first resolving the territorial issue. "Postponing a settlement will only slow down the expansion of overall Soviet-Japan relations."

Kaifu, noting the reunification of Germany, told Lukyanov that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev should make a "courageous decision" and return the islands, thus erasing another "vestige" of the East-West Cold War.

Meets With Nakasone

OW1411150690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1252 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 14 KYODO—Former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Supreme Soviet Chairman Anatoliy Lukyanov agreed Wednesday to respect Arab peace initiatives for a settlement of the Persian Gulf crisis, Nakasone's aides said. They also agreed that Japan and the Soviet Union will do their utmost to resolve the crisis peacefully in compliance with U.N. resolutions.

Nakasone, who visited Baghdad and won the release of 74 Japanese hostages earlier this month, also disagreed with U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, who expressed Washington's concern about visits to Baghdad by individual politicians seeking release of hostages held by Iraq.

Nakasone said he visited Iraq in a spirit of respecting and implementing U.N. resolutions and that Japan and the United States each have their own way of dealing with the situation.

Kuwaiti Official Hails Contributions to Forces

OW1211154290 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1135 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Report on interview with Nasir al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, by unidentified reporter in Tokyo on 12 November; from the "News 21" program—recorded]

[Text] [Nasir] It is my honor to attend the enthronement ceremony on behalf of his highness the amir of Kuwait. His highness wanted very much to be here, but because of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, his highness could not come. The Government of Japan withdrew its invitation to Iraq, a gesture we deeply appreciate.

Any type of contribution will help the multinational forces. Japan has already made contributions, and I hope that it will continue to contribute. It is up to Japan to decide what contributions to make.

[Reporter] Is there any possibility that territorial concessions will be made to Iraq?

[Nasir] We will never make concessions to Iraq. Kuwait will not cede one inch of its territory to Iraq. We will continue to demand our rights and the restoration of our country. With the help of all nations, we will continue to work for the implementation of UN resolutions.

Iranian Official Assures Sanctions Against Iraq

OW1111105390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1032 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—A high-ranking Iranian official assured Japan on Sunday that his country will continue imposing economic sanctions against Iraq to drive Baghdad's troops out of Kuwait, a Japanese official said.

Alireza Moayeri, an adviser to Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, made the assurance in a 20-minute meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama at the Foreign Ministry's Iikura Guesthouse.

Moayeri was quoted as saying that Baghdad has pressured Tehran to break the international economic embargo against it but that Tehran has resisted this pressure. Moayeri also said Iran would not accept anything less than a complete withdrawal of Iraqi troops from the oil-rich emirate.

Moayeri warned that Baghdad has been trying to drive a wedge into the international coalition arrayed against it by selectively releasing foreign hostages. The presidential adviser insisted that only resolute action against Iraq would bring about good results, according to the official.

Nakayama praised Tehran's firm stance against Baghdad and agreed to keep in close contact with Iran on the Gulf crisis, the official said.

The two leaders also agreed to make further efforts to expand relations between Iran and Japan.

Moayeri is visiting Tokyo to attend Monday's enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito.

Foreign Leaders Discuss Mideast, Koreas, Germany

OW1211181990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1316 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—The Middle East crisis, possible unification of the Korean peninsula and the unification of Germany dominated diplomatic discussions Monday among foreign leaders visiting Japan for the day's formal enthronement of Emperor Akihito.

In a meeting with U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, Turkish President Turgut Ozal said Iran wants to move toward normalizing relations with the United States, a senior U.S. administration official said.

Ozal told Quayle after meeting with Iranian President Hashemi- Rafsanjani over the weekend that there is a possibility of change in Iran's attitude toward the U.S., said the official traveling with the vice president. But the official said U.S. hostages in Lebanon must be released before relations with Iran can be normalized, while Tehran demands that the U.S. release Iranian assets frozen after Iran occupied the U.S. Embassy in 1979 and took 52 Americans hostage.

At another meeting, Israeli President Hayim Herzog indicated to Quayle that Israel may be softening its earlier refusal to receive a U.N. mission to investigate the deaths of 21 Arabs in Jerusalem on October 8, the U.S. official added. Herzog said he planned to discuss suggestions pertaining to the U.N. Security Council resolution calling for the investigation in a meeting with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

In the half-hour meeting Herzog also praised U.S. President George Bush for exercising the "most historic act of leadership in a long time" by a Western leader, the official said.

Quayle won support for Bush's decision last week to nearly double troop deployment in the Gulf from leaders of Turkey and Israel as well as from Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan Ibn Talal, the official said.

The crown prince shared Quayle's pessimism that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is unlikely to pull his troops out of Kuwait, and agreed to pursue "every option" to force withdrawal. The prince also said he agreed with the U.S. position that the Iraq issue should be resolved prior to seeking a solution to the Arab-Israel conflict, the official said.

In yet another of the dozens of meetings among leaders attending the enthronement, U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar and Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam discussed the Gulf crisis in an hour-long meeting at a Tokyo hotel, a Syrian diplomat said.

The two also touched on the Palestinian issue and the situation in Lebanon, but details of the talks were not immediately known.

On a different tack, South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, keen to find a way to unite the divided Korean peninsula, used a meeting with President Richard von Weizsaecker of the newly unified Germany to exchange views on each other's efforts to overcoming cold war divisions.

According to a South Korean source, Weizsaecker related some of Germany's experiences over the past year that began with the opening of the Berlin Wall a year ago and culminated with formal unification in October.

Kang noted some of the differences between the German and Korean situations, but remarked that Seoul would continue to wait patiently for a change in Pyongyang that would lead to eventual unification of the peninsula, the source said.

After World War II, Germany and Korea were both divided as a result of cold war rivalry between the Soviet Union and the United States with communist East Germany and North Korea falling into Moscow's sphere of influence and West Germany and South Korea backed by Washington. Many Koreans living on both sides of the demilitarized zone dividing the peninsula would like to see their country united like Germany, but two rounds of prime ministerial talks in September and October have failed to bring Seoul and Pyongyang any closer together.

Nakayama, Waldheim Discuss Economic Issues

OW1311125790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1127 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 13 KYODO—Austrian President Kurt Waldheim on Tuesday told Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama that his country wants to correct its trade imbalance with Japan, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The two met on short notice at a hotel in Tokyo, after Waldheim requested a meeting on Monday.

In their 10-minute talks, Waldheim stressed the need for correcting the trade imbalance with Japan, adding that his country has made efforts to promote the nation's exports, the officials said. Nakayama, in return, said he will study the issue, taking into consideration relations with other European countries.

Japan exported 182.2 billion yen worth of goods to Austria in 1989 while importing 72 billion yen worth.

Touching upon talks he held with Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock in Austria last December and July, Nakayama was quoted as saying that he had learned much through Mock about East European countries.

Waldheim told Nakayama that his country can link East European nations with Japan by acting as a center for Japanese companies, according to the officials.

Waldheim Meets Politicians

AU1311100790 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 13 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Tokyo—On the fringes of the ceremonies marking the accession to the throne of Japanese Emperor Akihito on Monday [12 November], President Kurt Waldheim met with a number of state guests as well as with prominent Japanese politicians, including Philippine President Corazon Aquino, Indian President Ramaswany Venkataraman, Icelandic President Vigdis Finnbogadottier, and Portuguese President Mario Soares.

The president held detailed talks with Kenyan head of state Daniel arap Moi and Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan, who met with Kurt Waldheim to discuss humanitarian and political problems of the Gulf crisis. Crown Prince Hasan stressed his country's growing concern about political developments in the Middle East and stressed that a dialogue should be resumed on the peaceful settlement of the conflict and that the United Nations Organization should be given a more important role in these efforts.

Hasan, who had earlier discussed the situation in the Gulf with U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, discussed with the Austrian president the possibilities of new internal Arab initiatives aimed at containing the danger of war and also pointed out the huge economic burdens on Jordan, which have been caused by the refugees from the Gulf region whose number has meanwhile increased to 100,000. He reiterated his request to Austria to help within its means.

Japanese Senate President Yoshihiko Tsuchiya gave the Austrian head of state a particularly cordial welcome on Monday morning—prior to the beginning of the official ceremonies—when Waldheim visited the parliament.

In the presence of several ministers and a large number of parliamentarians—above all representatives of the Japanese- Austrian friendship group—the president of the Japanese upper house also mentioned the president's repeated visits to Japan in his former capacity of UN secretary general and thanked him for the decision to personally represent the Republic of Austria at the enthronement ceremonies. Yoshihiko Tsuchiya was in Vienna as the head of a parliamentary delegation in the fall of 1989.

In addition to attending the ceremonies marking the accession to the throne, the schedule of the president, who will leave Tokyo on Wednesday, included meetings with a number for foreign state guests.

German President on Soviet Need for Aid

OW1111105590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—German President Richard von Weizsaecker said Sunday his country wants to help bring the Soviet Union into the world economic system and to play a role in narrowing the distance between Moscow and Western Europe.

In a 20-minute meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at the Akasaka State Guesthouse, the first president of a unified Germany also stressed the need for cooperation in developing the Soviet economic infrastructure, a Japanese official said. He added that Germany will actively promote cooperation in a concerted effort with other members of the 12-country European Community (EC). And the Soviet-German nonaggression treaty signed by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Bonn Friday has laid the groundwork for strong new bilateral relations, the German president was quoted as saying.

Weizsaecker also said that Germany is very interested in the content of discussions between Japan and the Soviet Union when Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev visits Japan in April.

Officials said that Kaifu wants the Gorbachev visit to bring about drastic improvement in Japan-Soviet relations, but he reiterated that settlement of a dispute over four Soviet-held islands off eastern Hokkaido is a prerequisite for improved ties.

Romania, Hungary Request Economic Assistance

OW1111045890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0430 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Romanian President Ion Iliescu and Hungarian President Arpad Goncz called on Japan on Sunday for financial aid to help their economies, hard hit by the Persian Gulf crisis, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Iliescu and Goncz made their requests in separate meetings with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. The two presidents are currently visiting Japan to attend the enthronement of Emperor Akihito on Monday.

Iliescu said the difficulties involved in changing a centrally planned economy into a market-oriented one have caused an economic plight in Romania. Coupled with the difficult economic transformation, Bucharest has lost 3 billion dollars since taking part in the U.N.-led economic sanctions against Iraq, Iliescu was quoted as saying.

Iliescu said he was disappointed that the Group of 24 (G-24) has been reluctant to grant economic aid to Romania after his National Salvation Front government violently suppressed demonstrations last June.

The G-24 is an international forum for Western assistance to East European countries.

Kaifu said Japan will be ready to grant loans from the Japan Export-Import Bank to Romania if the G-24 decides to expand economic assistance to Bucharest.

Iliescu invited Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko to Romania.

Hungarian President Goncz said Hungary hopes Japan will implement its pledge to extend 5 billion dollars in financial aid to Budapest.

Kaifu made the pledge during a visit to Hungary on his East European tour last January. He said Japan has already extended 2 billion dollars in financial aid to Hungary and the remainder will be granted if the Hungarian Government requests Japan to do so as early as possible.

Goncz invited Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko and their two sons, Crown Prince Naruhito and Prince Akishino, to visit Hungary.

Albania's Malile Discusses CSCE Membership

OW1111145190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1438 GMT 11 Nov 90

[By Timothy Johnson]

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Albania, in an apparent effort to break out of its Cold War isolation, wants to become a full- fledged member of the 35-nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Albanian Foreign Minister Reis Malile said here Sunday. "Now it is the time to take part in the CSCE with full rights," Malile said in an interview. "There are no longer the politics of confrontation between the two blocs, NATO and the Warsaw Treaty," he said.

Malile, the highest-ranking official in the reclusive Balkan country to visit Japan since diplomatic ties were established in 1981, predicted that Albania might win its bid to become the 36th member of the forum during the extraordinary CSCE summit meeting in paris on November 19-21.

Albania achieved observer status in the CSCE last June, but a consensus of the CSCE members in Paris is required for full membership.

Albania's past tyrannical policies, such as a ban on the practice of religion and the imposition of the death penalty for those trying to flee the country, had previously kept it at poles with the humanitarian principles espoused in the CSCE.

Malile said Albania used its observer status to acquaint itself with the forum's procedures and documents "and also to make amendments as far as our laws and constitution is concerned." He said Albania "is marching ahead" with "democratization" and the implementation of various political, legal, humanitarian, and economic reforms. "This process is going deeper and deeper every passing day ... And there will not be any step back, never," he vowed.

Albanian President Ramiz Alia, in a speech Thursday to Communist Labor Party officials, said an article in Albania's constitution that characterizes the Communist Party as the "only leading force" in the country should be "defined more precisely."

Elaborating on Alia's remarks, Malile said the article would be "taken away from the constitution...to give place to a broader pluralism." He acknowledged, however, that he was referring only to "pluralism of political thoughts" within the framework of a one- party state, not true political pluralism.

Due to circumstances of history, geography, and security unique to the small Balkan country, Albania is not ready to follow suit of other East European states in introducing Western-style multiparty democracy, he says.

Malile said a constitutional amendment, which is to be approved during the new People's Assembly session beginning Monday, will mean the party no longer will "give orders to the state...the state will give itself the orders."

On relations with Japan, Malile said there are no pressing issues. But he expressed a hope that the two countries will agree to set up embassies in each others' capitals. Malile also expressed hope that Japanese companies would take an interest in importing Albanian chrome, copper, iron, and nickel ores.

The foreign minister called on the Japanese Government to encourage companies here to start up joint ventures in Albania, while urging Japanese banks to extend credits once the country amends an relevant article in its constitution.

The ban on foreign loans has long been a central feature of Albania's policy of comprehensive self-sufficiency. Observers say the policy switch was in part prompted by the drop in barter trade following the collapse of communism across Eastern Europe.

Malile gave no precise timetable for establishing diplomatic relations with the United States after a 50-year hiatus, but he expressed hope that it would occur within the year.

"We have already prepared the documents," he said. "Now it is only a question of putting a signature on these documents."

Touching only briefly on the sweeping changes in Europe, Malile welcomed the reunification of Germany as "the right of the German people."

On the issue of secessionist-minded Albanians in Kosovo, a neighboring province in Yugoslavia's republic of Serbia, Malile said, "there is no doubt that we are against any change as far as the borders are concerned.

"We know the political realities," he said, saying Albania respects the Helsinki accords, which fixed Europe's post-World War II borders.

About 90 percent of the province's population of roughly one million people speak Albanian and some are actively seeking to establish an independent nation, a move which has angered the republic's majority Serbs.

Malile criticized Serbia's allegedly oppressive policy towards the Albanian population as "a wrong policy" and called on it to respect its rights. "The problems cannot be solved by limiting rights, by way of violence, or arresting people," he said.

Views Establishment of Embassies

OW1411064190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0421 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 14 KYODO—Albanian Foreign Minister Reis Malile called on Japan Wednesday to consider reciprocal establishment of embassies, Japanese officials said.

Malile made the call in a meeting with his Japanese counterpart Taro Nakayama at the Foreign Ministry's Iikura Guesthouse.

Nakayama replied that Japan and Albania should promote personnel exchanges before setting up an embassy in each other's capital.

Nakayama said Tokyo expects Albania will accelerate democratic reform, which he said will become a locomotive for increasing bilateral relations.

Kaifu Pledges Aid to Bulgaria's Zhelev

OW1411143890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1226 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev on Wednesday that Japan is ready to extend economic aid to Bulgaria through a Western group assisting East European countries, Foreign Ministry officials said. "Japan will make efforts to extend aid to Bulgaria through a Western group of 24 countries," said Kaifu.

He made the remark in reference to the Bulgarian economic plight stemming from the Gulf crisis and the collapse of the nine-member Soviet-led Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON).

Kaifu met Zhelev, who was here to attend Emperor Akihito's enthronment on Monday, at the Akasaka State Guesthouse.

Zhelev thanked Japan for pledging to extend the aid within the framework of a group of 24 nations. He said Bulgaria also expects Tokyo to promote bilateral assistance on humanitarian and technical projects and to reschedule Bulgarian debt.

Kaifu replied that the Japanese Government will consider the possibility of granting bilateral aid to the East European country.

Nakayama Meets Bulgarian, Polish Leaders

OW1511105190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0957 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 15 KYODO—Japan pledged Thursday to promote economic cooperation with Poland and Bulgaria as both countries continue efforts toward democracy and market-oriented economies, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama made the pledge in separate meetings with Speaker of the Polish Sejm (Parliament) Mikolaj Kozakiewicz and Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev. Kozakiewicz and Zhelev came to Japan to attend the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito on Monday.

Nakayama told Kozakiewicz that Japan will extend economic and financial assistance to Poland through the G-24, a group of 24 industrialized countries set up to coordinate aid to Eastern Europe. Kozakiewicz said the Polish Government will invite Emperor Akihito to visit Poland.

Following his meeting with Kozakiewicz, Kaifu met Zhelev at the Akasaka Guesthouse and said Japan will consider extending aid to Bulgaria as Sofia is suffering economic damage from the Persian Gulf crisis and an agricultural slump.

ROK Premier Urges Caution Toward Pyongyang

OW1211131390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun on Monday cautioned Japan about hastily normalizing relations with North Korea, insisting that there has been no change in its communist rival's policy of inciting revolution in the South. Kang, in Tokyo to attend imperial enthronement ceremonies, strongly urged former Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita during a brief courtesy call to influence the Japanese Government to move with caution in improving relations with Pyongyang, sources close to Takeshita said.

Kang has met twice this fall with his North Korean counterpart, Yon Hyong-muk, for talks but there has been little progress toward resolving the differences between the bitter Cold War rivals.

Drawing upon his talks with the North Korean premier, Kang told Takeshita, "There has been no change in North Korea's revolutionary road. Because its economy is in shambles, (the North Koreans) desire passionately to normalize relations with Japan. You must be careful."

Takeshita, who heads a pro-Seoul Japanese Parliamentarians' League, assured Kang that Japan would improve relations with Pyongyang only in concert with developments between North and South Korea, the Japanese sources said. Takeshita also told Kang that Tokyo backs South Korea's bid for a seat in the United Nations.

Takeshita said he will urge the Japanese Government to remain in close contact with Seoul "to avoid any obstruction to Japanese- South Korean friendship," the sources added.

In September, a combined Liberal Democratic Party-Japan Socialist Party mission to North Korea issued a joint statement with the (North) Korean Workers Party calling for the early normalization of relations between Tokyo and Pyongyang. Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru led the LDP delegation at that time.

Many South Koreans were upset by the statement's call for Japan to compensate North Korea for its postwar "suffering" as well as for the damage Japan inflicted during its 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean peninsula. Japan compensated South Korea only for the colonial period when it normalized relations with Seoul in 1965.

In Monday's meeting, Kang lamented that North Korea has not agreed to a Seoul proposal that the two governments join the United Nations simultaneously—but take separate seats, the sources said. The North, saying the southern proposal would perpetuate the division of the two Koreas, calls for Seoul and Pyongyang to share a single seat.

Kang said he hoped the Soviet Union and China, both permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and allies of Pyongyang, will influence North Korea to accept the joint entry proposal.

Takeshita and Kang agreed that progress should be made in improving the status of ethnic Koreans living in Japan during the next round of ministerial level talks November 26-27 in Seoul.

Kang, taking advantage of the gathering of foreign dignitaries here for the enthronement ceremony, visited with German President Richard von Weizsacker and Indonesian President Suharto earlier in the day.

On Tuesday, the South Korean prime minister is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle.

Nakayama Vows To Step Up Relations With Vietnam

OW0911175190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1357 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Friday pledged to make every effort to step up relations with Vietnam in fields ranging from politics and economics to culture and technology.

Nakayama made the remark when he met VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) General Director Do Phuong at the Foreign Ministry.

Phuong is visiting Japan to celebrate the opening of VNA's Tokyo bureau.

On Wednesday, VNA launched a dedicated communications circuit with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, Vietnam's first such linkup with a Western bloc country.

KYODO President Shinji Sakai also attended Friday's meeting between Nakayama and Phuong.

Nakayama touched upon his talks with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach on October 27 in Tokyo, and said Thach urged Japan to carry out the so-called "Fukuda doctrine," in which former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda expressed his belief in the importance of Japanese cooperation with Southeast Asian countries. "We want to realize the doctrine," Nakayama said.

Fukuda announced his doctrine during a tour of Southeast Asia in 1977.

Meets With Nguyen Huu Tho

OW1411143490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1002 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 14 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and Nguyen Huu Tho, vice chairman of Vietnam's State Council, confirmed Wednesday that bilateral relations are improving.

In a 10-minute meeting, the 80-year-old Nguyen Huu Tho repeated a request for Nakayama to visit Vietnam at an early date. Nakayama replied that he must adjust his political schedule.

Referring to the visit to Tokyo last month by Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, Nguyen Huu Tho said it paved the way for improved bilateral relations in all aspects.

He expressed hopes that Japan will take further initiatives to help solve the 12-year civil war in Cambodia.

Nakayama said Japan will cooperate with Vietnam on the Cambodian issue, as well as for the prosperity of Southeast Asia.

Nguyen Co Thach was the first Vietnamese foreign minister to visit here in 12 years. Japan suspended economic cooperation after Vietnam sent troops to Cambodia at the end of 1978.

Nakayama, Pakistani President on Gulf Situation

OW1111035190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0334 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan agreed Sunday to seek a peaceful solution to the Persian Gulf crisis and observe U.N. resolutions against Iraq, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Khan, in Tokyo to attend the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito on Monday, told Nakayama that Pakistan has strictly observed U.N. Security Council resolutions but the Gulf crisis has had a serious affect on Pakistan's economy.

Nakayama said Japan will send a high-level mission in the near future to Pakistan to promote economic cooperation and also a government research team within this year for next year's aid program to Pakistan. Japan will take the effects of the Middle East situation into consideration in extending assistance to Pakistan, Nakayama said.

Bangladesh President Requests Economic Assistance

OW1111052590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0456 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Bangladesh's President Hussain Mohammad Ershad called for Japanese financial assistance Sunday to help resolve economic problems resulting from the Persian Gulf crisis, Foreign Ministry officials said.

In a 15-minute meeting at the Akasaka State Guesthouse with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Ershad said the Gulf crisis has created a large number of refugees and 65,000 Bangladeshis who had been working in Iraq and Kuwait have returned home. As a result, many economic problems have developed and Bangladesh has been making every effort to overcome them, Ershad said.

Kaifu said Japan will consider appropriate support for problems triggered by the crisis within the framework of Japanese economic assistance.

Ershad requested economic assistance for a bridge project over the Jamuna River and Kaifu replied that Japan would make a decision based on a study conducted by a research mission.

Ozal Reportedly Expects Gulf War 'in January'

OW1411122390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1019 GMT 14 Nov 90

[By Jocelyn Ford]

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 14 KYODO—Turkish President Turgut Ozal said Wednesday he expects war to erupt in the Gulf area in January if there is no prior political solution.

The chance for war is high, unless Iraqi President Saddam Husayn does something, Turgut Ozal said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE. "If I were him I should sacrifice myself for the sake of Iraq and Arabs. This is the only solution," Ozal said.

"If he remains he cannot step out of Kuwait. I know that, and I think he gives a chance to some other people after he sacrifices himself."

If Husayn were to leave the country, Ozal said that other leaders would have the chance to implement UN resolutions and perhaps destroy Iraq's chemical weapons arsenal.

The Turkish President said in his "guesstimate" that war would break out in January, but not later.

Ozal welcomed the U.S. plan to dispatch more than 100,000 additional troops to the Gulf to join some 230,000 soldiers already there. "It will give the right message to President Saddam Husayn: That eventually there should be an armed conflict if you do not implement the United Nations Security Council decisions."

Turkey has not yet made a decision on whether to allow U.S. fighter jets to take off from bases in Turkey in the case of armed conflict, he said.

Ozal was pessimistic about the prospects for an Arab summit because the meeting would drive the wedge deeper between Arab countries.

On Sunday, Moroccan King Hassan II proposed holding an Arab summit as a "last chance" for peace.

Ozal said that his country's economy is not suffering as much as is portrayed in media reports.

Meets Foreign Leaders, Bankers

TA1411124990 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1100 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Excerpt] President Turgut Ozal, who is in Japan, is continuing to hold contacts in Tokyo. Nermin Tuguslu reports from Tokyo:

This morning, President Ozal received 'Abd-al-Ghani, a member of the Yemeni Presidential Council. They discussed the Gulf crisis and bilateral relations.

Ozal then met with Romanian President Ion Iliescu, with whom he discussed bilateral relations, international issues, and the latest situation in the Gulf crisis.

The president then met with leading Japanese banking and corporate officials at the Turkish Embassy in Tokyo. They discussed Turkey's economic situation, as well as Ozal's contacts in the region within the framework of the Gulf crisis. [passage omitted]

Kaifu Meets Salvadoran, Panamanian Presidents

OW1511101690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0905 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 15 KYODO—El Salvador's President Alfredo Felix Cristiani Burkard pledged Thursday to reach a peaceful settlement with left-wing guerrillas in his country, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said.

Cristiani made the pledge in a meeting with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at the Akasaka Guesthouse where Kaifu later met Panamanian President Guillermo Endara Galimany. Cristiani and Endara came to Japan to attend the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito on Monday. The Salvadoran President said his Government's most important political goal is to reach a peaceful settlement with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

The Salvadoran Government has been negotiating with the 6,000-strong FMLN since September last year under the auspices of the United Nations and Cristiani said his Government is optimistic of reaching a settlement.

The Japanese Government expects peace to be established as soon as possible in El Salvador through negotiations, Kaifu said. Kaifu said Japan will send a mission as early in 1991 as possible to seek ways of extending economic assistance to the Central American country.

In a later meeting with Endara, Kaifu pledged that Japan will extend economic aid to Panama to reconstruct its economy which links the Pacific and Atlantic oceans through its canal. Endara thanked Kaifu for Japan's efforts to help Panama economically and said the Panamanian Government expects Japanese grants to improve fishery facilities. Kaifu said the Japanese Government will consider such aid.

Talks With Cuban Vice President

OW1511104390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 15 KYODO—Japan and Cuba agreed Thursday to maintain friendly relations through economic, cultural, and personnel exchanges, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Cuban Vice President of the Council of State Carlos Rafael Rodriguez made the agreement when they met at the Akasaka Guesthouse. Rodriguez is currently visiting Japan. He attended the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito on Monday and met Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Sunday.

Kaifu said Tokyo wants Cuba to settle 50 billion yen in public debts to Japan through the so-called Paris Club comprising donor countries like the United States, Japan, and other industrial countries.

Cuba has faced one of the most serious economic crises in 31 years since Cuban President Fidel Castro succeeded in the Cuban Socialist Revolution in 1959, as the Soviet Union and new East European governments impose tougher trade terms on the Caribbean island country.

Peru To Receive 3.5 Billion Yen Grant

OW1311151490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1351 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 13 KYODO—Peru will receive a 3.5 billion yen grant by the end of the year from the Japanese Government, Peru's Minister of Foreign Relations Luis Marchand revealed Tuesday in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE at a hotel in Tokyo. The grant, 3.5 times the amount given to Peru last year, is considered an expression of the Japanese Government's firm commitment to cooperating with Peru, which is led by President Alberto Fujimori, a descendant of Japanese emigrants.

Marchand also said that Fujimori is planning to visit Japan in the latter half of next year, making it his first official visit here since winning Peru's heated presidential election in June.

Before Fujimori's inauguration in July, the university rector turned politician made a triumphant visit to Japan to solicit Japanese aid in reviving Peru's battered economy.

Since taking office, Fujimori has been sharply criticized for his economic policies that unleashed a monthly 400 percent inflation rate over the first three months, but Marchand stressed Tuesday that inflation in Peru is now at 9 percent and projections are that next year's annual rate will be about 20 percent.

Nakayama Holds Talks With African Officials

OW1411144190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1219 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 14 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said on Wednesday Japan will continue assisting African nations to solve their economic difficulties caused by the Persian Gulf crisis, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Nakayama made the remarks at a lunch meeting with dignitaries from 10 African nations at the ministry's Iikura Guest House, the officials said. They were Kojo Tsikata, vice chairman of Ghana's Provisional National Defense Council, and foreign ministers and other representatives from the Congo, Sierra Leone, the Comoros, Mauritius, Swaziland, Seychelles, Ivory Coast, Liberia, and Equatorial Guinea.

Nakayama said he is convinced that friendship between Japan and African nations has been strengthened through Emperor Akihito's enthronement ceremonies, according to the officials.

On behalf of the foreign guests, Tsikata expressed their gratitude for Japan's hospitality during their stay and said they have learned much about Japan since attending the ceremonies.

Some African leaders also voiced concern about soaring oil prices caused by the Gulf crisis, the officials said.

Nakayama said although Japan has shared many burdens with other countries in contributing to the peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis, it will continue its efforts to help African nations.

Djibouti President, Kaifu Discuss Gulf Crisis

OW1511063490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0551 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov 15 (KYODO)—Djibouti President Gouled Aptidon Hassan on Thursday called for Japanese assistance to help offset his country's losses stemming from the Persian Gulf crisis, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The officials said the head of the tiny but strategic country, located at the southern entrance of the Red Sea, made the request in a meeting with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. Aptidon who met previously with Kaifu in Tokyo in September, visited Japan again to attend last Monday's enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito. Aptidon said the Gulf crisis has adversely affected Djibouti's transportation service industry and added that the problem is exacerbated by the continued conflicts in neighboring Ethiopia and Somalia.

Officials said Kaifu pledged that Japan would consider extending Djibouti assistance, including grant aid, taking into account the special circumstances the impoverished country now faces. Japan pledged 826 million yen in grant aid to Djibouti in September on top of 3.1 billion yen in cumulative grants pledged so far. Djibouti is suffering from the U.S.-led blockade of Iraqi ships and cancellation of a 250 million U.S. dollar project sponsored by Iraq.

Officials said Kaifu praised Djibouti's response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait last August. Aptidon was quoted as replying that Djibouti supports without reservation the resolutions passed by the United Nations.

While Djibouti has not objected to the defensive stationing of U.S. and other multinational troops in Saudi Arabia, it has been pressing for a diplomatic solution to the crisis and calls for an international conference on Middle East problems after Iraqi troops leave Kuwait.

Allies Commemorate 'Remembrance Day' at Cemetery

OW1111074990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0654 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Yokohama, Nov. 11 KYODO—On the eve of Tokyo ceremonies marking the enthronement of Emperor Akihito, the British and Dutch crown princes and the governors general of Canada and New Zealand laid memorial wreaths at Yokohama graves of British Commonwealth soldiers, sailors, and airmen who died in World War II and in the Korean War.

In a traditional remembrance day ceremony at the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Hodogaya, south of Tokyo, the princes and governors general were joined by representatives from dozens of commonwealth and allied nations to honor those who died across the globe in two world wars and in conflicts in Korea and Vietnam.

November 11 was the day hostilities ceased at "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918 to end the "Great War." And it is the day across the commonwealth when veterans of all wars remember their fallen comrades.

Members of the commonwealth living in Japan annually mark the day at Hodogaya but this year the ceremony took on additional significance because so many commonwealth dignitaries are in the country for the emperor's enthronement ceremonies.

Prince Charles of Britain was accompanied by his wife Princess Diana at the day's remembrance, which included prayers from representatives of Protestantism, Catholicism, Judaism, Hinduism, Islam and Buddhism.

The last post and reveille were played by a single Canadian bugler and a lone Canadian piper as wreaths were laid by dignitaries from New Zealand, Canada, Britain, and the Netherlands. Representatives also attended from Australia, Malaysia, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Brunei, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Papua New Guinea, the United States, and Japan.

Sharply at 11 A.M., those in attendance bowed for two minutes of silent remembrance of fallen comrades, friends, and relatives.

From Canada, Col. Fred Tilston, 84, and Sgt. Ernest (Smokey) Smith, 76, both winners of the Victoria Cross, the highest military award for gallantry, during World War II, led commonwealth war veterans from across the globe.

Heavy security associated with the enthronement ceremonies Monday prevented many from joining the rites at the cemetery but many Japanese and others who crowded near the entrance to the war cemetery gave a rousing cheer as the British royal couple departed.

Smith, who won his Victoria Cross during battles in Sicily and other parts of Italy, said he felt proud to be representing Canadian veterans at the ceremonies in Japan and harbored no wartime animosities which might have made him miss the trip with Canadian Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn. "I was asked to come but would have come anyway," he said. "It's important for the governor general to attend the enthronement in Japan and important that we mark remembrance day as well."

Diet Closes Extraordinary Session 10 Nov

OW1011102890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0648 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—The national Diet closed a 30- day extraordinary session Saturday after killing a government proposed bill that would have allowed the sending abroad of Japanese troops for the first time since the end of World War II.

The U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill, prepared by the Foreign Ministry, met strong resistance from all opposition parties throughout the monthlong session of the legislature. The bill, which was aimed at providing greater Japanese contributions to international peacekeeping efforts, called for dispatching noncombatant troops of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF), supply ships, and transport aircraft to international trouble spots.

There was no vote taken on the bill in the lower house, the House of Representatives.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party and two opposition parties have agreed to work out a separate plan to enable

Japan to make greater contributions to global peace, according to a statement they issued.

The cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu plans to convene the Diet around December 10 to a six-month ordinary session and present a new bill, government sources said.

Fingerprinting of Korean Residents To Continue

OW1311202790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1514 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 13 KYODO—Japan will reject South Korea's request for an end to fingerprinting of its "first- and second- generation" Korean residents, government sources said Tuesday. But the government plans to apply other measures decided for "third-generation" resident Koreans to the first- and second- generation ones to improve their legal status, the sources said.

The government will formally unveil its position at a working- level meeting with South Korea on November 19 and hopes to reach agreement at a ministerial meeting on November 26-27 in Seoul, they said.

Japan and South Korean reached accord at foreign ministerial talks in April on the issue of improving the legal status of third- generation resident Koreans. The agreement calls for a new registry to eliminate fingerprinting for such residents. It also limits deportation for third-generation Korean residents to those guilty of subversive acts and extends their allowable residence period abroad from two to five years.

South Korean President No Tae-u urged Japan to apply the accord to the first- and second-generation Korean residents when he visited Japan in May.

Third-generation Korean residents are legally defined as the offspring of Korean residents born on or after January 17, 1971.

When Japan and South Korea signed the normalization treaty in 1965, all Koreans who had been living in Japan up to 1945, and those born before January 16, 1971 were classified as first-generation Koreans. They and their children, second-generation Koreans, were given the right of permanent residence. Japan agreed in April to grant third-generation Korean residents the same right.

Japanese law requires all foreigners over the age of 16 living in Japan for more than a year to submit a fingerprint for an alien registration certificate, which they must carry at all times.

ROK Premier Urges Settlement of Resident Status

OW1311132790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1050 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 13 KYODO—South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun on Tuesday urged Japan to settle the issues of the legal status of Korean residents in Japan and high-tech transfer to South Korea, Japanese officials said. In a 20-minute meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Kang also reiterated Seoul's concerns that rapprochement between Japan and North Korea should not hamper the ongoing dialogue between the two Koreas, the officials said.

Kang is currently in Japan to attend the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito, which took place on Monday.

Kang drew Kaifu's attention to the issue of the Korean residents, over which the two nations will hold another round of ministerial talks in Seoul on November 26-27.

Improvement of the legal status of ethnic Koreans living in Japan has been a point of concern for successive South Korean administrations. About 680,000 Korean residents, including those who were brought in as forced labor under Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule of Korea, and their descendants have no voting rights and are also required to be fingerprinted as "foreign nationals."

A 1965 protocol between the two nations stipulates that a decision should be reached on the status of third-generation and younger resident Koreans by January 16, 1991.

Economic Experts To Meet PRC Counterparts

OW0911094290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0826 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 (KYODO)—Economic experts from Japan and China will meet in Beijing on November 27 for the first time since last year's Tiananmen Square incident to discuss bilateral economic affairs, officials at the Economic Planning Agency said Friday.

The bilateral economic meeting had been held yearly since 1980 but was canceled last year due to Beijing's bloody June 4 crackdown on prodemocracy demonstrators.

The Japanese representatives will include Shinyasu Hoshino, deputy director general of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA), who is scheduled to meet high-ranking officials such as Zou Jiahua, minister of the State Planning Commission, to discuss China's Eighth Five-Year Economic Plan and other matters, the officials said.

North Korea

U.S.-ROK 'Overheated' Military Exercises Cited

SK1511045390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 15 Nov 90

["Offensive Operation Exercise To Invade North"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 15 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppets are getting overheated in war manoeuvres directed against the northern half of Korea under the name of the criminal "Eagle 90" joint military exercises, according to military sources.

On the 8th, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities staged a marine "commando" landing and deep-infiltration exercises to invade the North in the coastal waters of Pohang with the support of more than 40 F-16 fighter-bombers of the U.S. Seventh Air Force and the puppet air force.

The South Korean authorities between November 6 and 9 committed an actual war exercise to increase the capacity of attack on the North with the massive mobilization of infantry troops and artillery pieces, tanks and armoured vehicles in Pochon, Yangyang, Hwachon and Tongduchon areas.

They mobilized formations of C-123 and C-130 transport planes carrying "commandoes" in the sky above Nyechon area on November 8 to stage a parachuting exercise for infiltration into and surprise attack on the strategical depths of the northern half of Korea in "the event of contingency".

Facts show that, although the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities are talking about "detente", they are actually trying hard to gratify their wild ambition to invade the North behind the screen of North-South dialogue.

Daily Reports on Nuclear Dump Protest in South

SK1511060190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Pyongyang November 15 (KCNA)—The massive struggle of the inhabitants in Anmyon Island, Taean County, South Chungchong province, against the No Tae-u group's scheme to build a nuclear waste dump is a righteous struggle to prevent a nuclear holocaust and defend their vital rights, says NODONG SINMUN today.

The news analyst notes:

Some 8,000 inhabitants in Anmyon-up staged a fierce protest against the puppet clique's criminal scheme on November 8 and political parties, organizations and people of various strata of South Korea are expressing solidarity with them in their struggle and, upset by this, the No Tae-u group is indiscriminately arresting people by wielding the dictatorial power.

The puppets' scheme to dump "ash of death" in a populated area is an anti-national criminal act to devastate the land of the country and mercilessly sacrifice the people. It clearly shows that the South Korean rulers are a group of traitors whom the South Korean people cannot live with under the same sky.

Coupled with the people's anti-"government" struggle ever growing after the political surveillance by the "army security command" and the "Democratic Liberal Party's" plot to remain in power indefinitely through a "constitutional revision for parliamentary cabinet system" have been laid bare, the struggle against the construction of a nuclear waste dump has driven the No group into a position of a fish out of water.

The traitor No must step down without delay, held responsible for the anti-national criminal moves to prolong the military fascist dictatorial "regime" and make the people victims of nuclear holocaust, following outside forces.

Yon Hyong-muk To Visit PRC 23-27 Nov

SK1511093990 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0900 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, will make an official goodwill visit to the PRC from 23 to 27 November at the invitation of Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council.

Kim Yong-nam Meets PRC Friendship Delegation

SK1311011890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Pyongyang November 12 (KCNA)— Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and had a friendly talk with the friendship delegation of the Chinese Foreign Ministry led by Vice-Minister Liu Huaqiu, on a visit to Korea.

Present there were Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Cha Pong-chu and Chinese ambassador here Zheng Yi.

A dinner for the delegation was given at Chongyu restaurant this evening.

Japan's Women Support Relations Declaration

SK1311045090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo November 11 (KNS-KCNA)—Masako Yamashita, representative member of the Japan Women's Liaison Council for Solidarity with the Korean Women, and other representatives October 29 demanded the Japanese prime minister implement the joint declaration of the three parties of Korea and Japan and a switchover in Japan's Korean policy.

They handed to the secretary of the prime minister's office and concurrently cabinet secretary a "request demanding apology and compensation for the colonial domination over Korea and a switchover in the hostile policy toward Korea" in the name of their organisation.

The request warmly supported the joint declaration of the three parties of Japan and Korea and said they would watch if the government sincerely fulfil the declaration, out of the independent will and responsibility of the Japanese.

It said the Japanese Government is pursuing a policy of discrimination against the Koreans in Japan and the policy of freezing the division of Korea.

In conclusion, the request strongly demanded an immediate rectification of the Japanese Government's hostile policy toward the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the sincere implementation of the joint declaration of the three parties of Japan and Korea.

Kim Tal-hyon Meets Iranian Construction Envoys

SK1211111590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Pyongyang November 12 (KCNA)—Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon today met and had a friendly conversation at Mansudae Assembly Hall with the visiting construction delegation of Iran led by Vice Minister of Housing and Urban Development Sayyed Mahmud Kamguyan.

Present there were Vice Chairman of the State Construction Commission Pae Tal-chun and Iranian Ambassador here Hassan Dabir.

The head of the delegation laid stress on further developing mutual cooperation and exchange in the fields of the economy and construction between the two countries.

He hoped that Korea would be reunified at an early date to be a free and independent state.

KCNA Reviews 15 Nov Pyongyang Press

SK1511061190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Pyongyang November 15 (KCNA)—Papers here today report that President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message from 'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of the Presidential Council of the Republic of Yemen, in reply to his message of greetings on the 27th anniversary of the October 14 revolution in Yemen.

NODONG SINMUN carries news that the great leader President Kim Il-song received congratulatory messages and letters from foreign countries on the 45th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The paper reports that a letter came to President Kim Il-song from a joint seminar on the peculiar socialism of Korea and its reunification question held in India.

MINJU CHOSON dedicates an article to the 45th anniversary of the publication of "For the Establishment of Genuine People's Government," a historical work of President Kim Il-song.

NODONG SINMUN reports that immortal classical works of President Kim Il-song were reported abroad.

MINJU CHOSON says that Comrade Kim Il-song showed deep interests in creating and disseminating revolutionary songs from the first days since he embarked on the road of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that a work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il was reported in different countries.

Carried in it is a message of greetings sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to Felipe Gonzalez on his reelection as general secretary of the Socialist Workers' Party of Spain.

The paper editorially calls upon officials and working people in the light industrial field to effect a greater upsurge in the production of consumer goods.

Papers deal with remarkable achievements made by working people in different domains of the national economy in production and construction, loudly beating the drum of revolution.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article entitled "To Improve Economic Management Level of Officials Is Important Demand of Developing Reality."

Papers inform the readers that His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Kampuchea, left Pyongyang after visiting Korea.

According to papers, a spokesman for the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Art of Korea in his statement to the press urged the "General Federation of the Organisations of Art and Culture" of South Korea to renounce its claim on "the unified channel of dialogue" in the cultural and art exchange between the North and the South.

NODONG SINMUN gives accounts of a Korean book, photo and handicraft exhibition held in Italy and a joint seminar held in Kampala on the application of the chuche idea to problems arising in Uganda at present.

Papers convey what foreign political and public figures said in praise of the might of the Korean people united with a single heart and in support of their cause of reunification.

The nonaggression declaration between the North and the South which was proposed by our side at the inter-Korean high-level talks is warmly supported in foreign countries, says NODONG SINMUN.

South Korean news in the press includes reports that peasants in North Cholla Province fought in demand of the purchase of the whole amount of autumn grains and peasants in South Cholla Province held a peasants' meeting to denounce the opening of the market to agricultural and livestock products by the authorities and strongly demand compensation for the rice price.

NODONG SINMUN comments on the struggle of the local people against the building of a nuclear waste dump in Anmyon Island, Taean County, South Chungchong

Province, South Korea. It is an entirely righteous struggle to prevent a nuclear disaster and defend the right to existence, it says.

A MINJU CHOSON commentary analyses the so-called "second consultative meeting on financial policy" held between the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

Dailies report about frequent attacking exercises staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities for invading the North.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article headlined "No One Can Dampen Desire of Korean People for National Reunification."

The paper reports that the Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY called for an intensified struggle against bourgeois liberalisation, the Vietnamese paper PEOPLE'S ARMY warned against the danger of Japanese militarism, and the U.N. General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for the political solution of the Afghan problem.

Included in the international news columns of the paper are reports that the head of state of Libya denounced the United States for rendering the Gulf situation strained, the Angolan President denounced the U.S. imperialists' interference in the internal affairs of his country and the Tunisian President elaborated on the problem of the development of the country and the foreign minister of Indonesia hailed the talks for normalizing Korea-Japan relations.

Dailies observe the 2nd anniversary of the proclamation of the state of Palestine.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article stressing that the U.S. forces present in South Korea are not "deterrent forces but aggressive occupation forces.

Choe Tae-pok Attends Meeting of Honor Students

SK1311121690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Pyongyang November 13 (KCNA)—A national meeting of honor students was held in Pyongyang on November 12 and 13.

It summed up the achievements and experiences gained by students in strictly carrying out our party's study-first policy and discussed the tasks to bring about a new turn in study.

Present there were Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], and Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, made a report, which was followed by speeches.

The reporter and speakers said that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, regarding workers and farmers as well as intellectuals as a drive force of the revolution, made sure that a hammer and sickle as well as a brush were engraved in the mark of our party, founded Kim Il-song University as the first work for training native cadres and has paid a deep attention to constantly increasing universities and colleges and improving the quality of higher education in conformity with the developing revolution and construction.

Noting that he gave the great program of chuche education by publishing "Theses on Socialist Education", which was an important event in bringing about an epochal turn in training communist revolutionaries, they stressed that higher education and student-youth work in our country have entered a new higher stage under the wise guidance of our party.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il gave a new exposition of the matters arising in the training of revolutionaries, created the most superior method of study, brightly indicated the direction and way of improving and strengthening the education of people and the training of technicians and experts in keeping with the new requirements of the developing revolution in his works including an immortal encyclopedia of education "On Further Developing Educational Work" and has energetically led the work for its realization, they said, and pointed out:

The success made in the course of the movement for following the method of study created by our party is that chuche has been more thoroughly established in study and the study to occupy the high peak of modern science intensified.

They recalled that more than 1,400 students across the country have become candidates for associate doctors in a recent few years and thousands of scientific and technical inventions were reported from universities and colleges throughout the country in recent two to three years, contributing to the chuche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy.

The reporter and speakers stressed that it is entirely thanks to the wise leadership of the great leader and the Workers' Party of Korea that the Korean students are growing up to be reliable successors to the revolutionary cause of chuche and able revolutionaries.

The students are today faced with the tasks to become doctors, associate doctors and world-famous inventors in their twenties and thirties who have the chuche-based steadfast revolutionary outlook on the revolution, more closely rallied around the Workers' Party of Korea and to become reliable national cadres who uphold the WPK with science and technologies, they said. They called for effecting a new innovation in the study.

An appeal to the students across the country was adopted at the meeting.

The appeal calls upon the students to study hard with loyalty to the great leader and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il as their revolutionary faith and obligation and prepare themselves to be fully-developed national cadres who will carry forward the revolutionary cause of chuche.

Variety of National Musical Art Extolled

SK1311224590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Pyongyang November 13 (KCNA)—The old heritage of national music has been carried forward and developed on a new pattern in Korea to form a bounteous flower garden of national musical art. The performance given by the Pyongyang Music Troupe inspires the Korean people with a great national pride and honour by telling that our nation is the best in the world and so is our national musical art.

This is what overseas Korean musicians said in unison after participating in the pan-national concert for reunification which was held in Pyongyang from October 18 to 23.

The performance of the music troupe which was replete with the soul of the nation left indelible impressions on the grey-haired national musicians who had left the homeland in their youthful days, shedding bitter tears over the national music destroyed by the Japanese imperialists and on the overseas Korean musicians of the second generation.

In Korea where the heritage of national musical art is regarded as a valuable wealth nearly 8,000 pieces of folk songs have been discovered and arranged since the liberation of the country in August 1945.

These folk songs reflecting the excellent musical talent of the working people in many years have been arranged in different publications such as "Collection of Korean Folk Songs," "Selected Korean Folk Songs," "Materials on the Study of Folk Songs" (Vols. 1-9) and they have been widely disseminated.

In recent years scores of folk songs including "Boatman's Song of Popsong Bay" and "Touch-Me-Not" were presented to suit the modern aesthetic tastes to enjoy deep love of Koreans at home and overseas.

Several new kinds of national musical instruments, valuable heritage of the nation, have been contrived and manufactured and more than ten kinds of old national instruments have been improved into 30 odd kinds.

Korean national instruments with rich volume and soft tone add to the national colour and sentiments of music. All these achievements made in the development of national music are attributable to the wise leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea.

A large part of the Korean national music with a long tradition of 5,000 years faced the danger of disappearance or being made heterogeneous owing to the 36-year long Japanese imperialist colonial rule and national division by the outside forces in the later period.

In May 1946 President Kim Il-song convened a national meeting of cultural and art workers and stressed the need to uphold the excellent tradition of national music and further develop it to be handed down to the rising generation and put forward a new line of building national culture.

Entering the 1960s, dear Comrade Kim Chong-il newly indicated concrete ways of further developing national music such as the principle of discovery of folk songs and their arrangement in musical scores, the method of their depiction and active application of the style of popular melody to musical creation.

Under the energetic guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il "Arirang," "Toraji" (Broad Bellflower) and thousands of other folk songs which are popular not only among the people in the North and the South but also to the Koreans overseas were arranged and they have been presented in diverse forms of performance (vocal solo, group singing, instrumental concert and orchestra) to suit our people's modern aesthetic tastes, with their original form preserved.

It has become a consistent policy of building socialist national music to create music on the basis of popular and national melodies, with the result that a new kind of national songs named "folk song-style songs" now hold an important position in musical art.

New kind of national instruments including okryugum by which one can show his rich expression and diverse performance skill have been manufactured under the loving care of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

This rich flower garden of national music art in the northern half of Korea is a valuable wealth in developing national music of Korea in a unique way, stressed the participants in the pan-national concert for reunification.

Daily Extols Kim Chong-il's Guidelines on Chuche

SK1411115690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Pyongyang November 14 (KCNA)—Nodong Sinmun today comes out with a signed article entitled "Highly Important Guideline That Scientifically Elucidates Profound Theories of Chuche Philosophy".

In his recent historical works dear Comrade Kim Chong-il gave a deepgoing exposition of the profound and unique principles of the great chuche philosophy and of the theoretical and practical matters arising in scientifically understanding and applying them, the paper says, and continues:

In the historical works, our party gave a profound elucidation of the characteristics of the chuche philosophy fundamentally different from the world outlook based on biologism and vulgar materialism and of the important matters arising in the better understanding of it.

The chuche philosophy is different from the philosophy which views development of all things as an objective natural process.

The chuche philosophy which represents a high stage of the development of human thoughts was the first to expound on the basis of the intrinsic lawfulness of the social movement the principles of philosophy including the essential character of man who has independence, creativity and consciousness. This proves that the chuche philosophy is a completely unique philosophy and that the validity and superiority of the chuche philosophy cannot be deeply acquired from such stand and viewpoint as viewing development of things as an objective natural process.

The study method based on biologism and the theory of evolution gives no correct understanding of the essential features of man. The essential character of man consists of independence, creativity and consciousness which are not products of evolution but attributes which have formed and developed through social and historical courses.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out:

"Man is an offspring of evolution, but the essential attributes of man as a social being are not products of evolution but attributes which have formed and developed through social and historical processes".

The essential attributes of man are not the development and completion of natural attributes of general living materials.

From a social view of point, however, man differs fundamentally from all other living materials for his independence, creativity and consciousness—attributes peculiar to him.

The independence, creativity and consciousness cannot exist apart from society. Accordingly, neither the evolutionary study method which views the essential character of man as a difference in the development level of living materials nor the viewpoint of finding the essential nature of man in the diversity of biological and social components and the complexity of the method of their combination can be a correct method. This method gives no correct exposition of fundamental difference between natural being and social being and of the essential character of man, the sole entity of the world.

Man and the social assets created by him cannot be put in the same category and the social assets cannot belong to social beings.

In the works, our party scientifically expounded the correlations of nature-remaking, human transformation and social remoulding, which are the three sectors of human activities to realise independence.

The transformation of the three sectors does not arise altogether in each period and at each stage of the developing revolution. The clear proof of it is the practical process of the developing revolution.

In the period of the socialist revolution, the question of liquidating exploitation and oppression and realising the socio-political independence of the popular masses, that is, social transformation comes to the fore. After the establishment of the socialist system nature-remaking and human transformation to free people from the fetters of nature and the old ideas come to the fore.

After the establishment of the socialist system the transformation of nature and man is carried out through the three revolutions—ideological, technical and cultural—and society is remoulded not by a revolutionary method but by a method of consolidating and developing the socialist system.

By fully expounding such lawfulness, our party has provided a powerful theoretical and practical weapon with which to press ahead with the transformation of the three fields.

The works of our party gave a profound philosophical exposition of the economic life, ideological and cultural life and political life, three fields of social life.

Economic life, ideological and cultural life and political life are closely linked with each other, but their position and role are not the same in social life.

Political, ideological life plays a leading and decisive role in social life.

Kim Chong-il Works Translated in Many Languages

SK1411153890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Pyongyang November 14 (KCNA)—"Accomplishing Chuche Revolutionary Cause" (vol.1), a collection of works of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, was recently published in English, French, Russian, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, Arabic and German by the foreign languages press group.

Carried in the collection are 42 immortal classic works including speeches, concluding speeches and talks made by Comrade Kim Chong-il from April 1964 to November 1971. "Let us create more revolutionary film based on socialist life", "Let us produce revolutionary operas that are high in ideological and artistic quality by strictly applying the principle of creating a sea of blood-type revolutionary operas" and other works give an exposition of the questions of correctly embodying the spirit of the times in literature and art, properly keeping alive the ideological and artistic characteristics of masterpieces and thoroughly establishing the revolutionary system in the creation of films of our style, and other theoretical and practical questions arising in further developing literature and art.

The work "on improving the work of the youth league to meet the requirements of the developing situation" newly defines the character and duty of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) and indicates the necessity and tasks to strengthen the ideological education among young people in conformity with them, and the ways of solidly building up the ranks of the LSWYK workers and enhancing their role.

Also expounded in the collection are questions of establishing the revolutionary spirit of carrying out the party's lines and policies among the leading workers of agriculture and further improving the work of communications, radio broadcasting and other domains.

Class Indoctrination Work Emphasized

SK1411135190 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0009 GMT 12 Nov 90

[NODONG SINMUN 12 November editorial: "Let Us Steadily Push Ahead With Class Indoctrination Work"]

[Text] Our party has constantly strengthened class indoctrination work among party members and the working people in conformity with the demands of the developing reality, regarding it as an important work of strengthening the party and the revolutionary ranks politically and ideologically. This clearly shows how firm and resolute the working-class stand and the character of revolutionary principle that our party has adhered to are. We should continue to push ahead with the work of carrying through the party's policy of class indoctrination.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: We should indoctrinate party members and the working people to acquire a firm working-class viewpoint, to be infinitely loyal to the revolutionary cause of the working class, to hate imperialism and the exploiting system, and to resolutely struggle against them.

We are now living in the era of revolution. The advancing road of our revolution is still faced with difficult and heavy tasks, and the target of our struggle has not changed. Therefore, everyone should lead a revolutionary and militant life in conformity with the demands of the era of revolution and struggle. To this end, it is imperative to strengthen the work of arming party members and the working people with deep class consciousness.

Without carrying out steady and constant class indoctrination work, high revolution-mindedness, combat strength, strong hostilities toward class enemies, and the noble spirit of socialist patriotism—which are the lofty disposition of the people carrying out the revolution—cannot be displayed. Our socialism is now victoriously advancing without a stop and is displaying prominently its superiority. That our socialism has become the most solid one politically which is not shaken by any storm is because all the people are resolutely struggling to defend their system and ideal with firm class consciousness. We should continue to strengthen class indoctrination work, regarding it not as a simple ideological indoctrination work, but as an important task of firmly deepening socialism of our way politically, ideologically, and in terms of class.

Strengthening class indoctrination work among party members and the working people is an important matter at present under the circumstances in which the imperialists are viciously resorting to anti-socialist maneuvers. Attempting to paralyze people's class consciousness by constantly infiltrating corrupt bourgeois ideologies and culture into them and, thus, to destroy the socialist society from within is precisely a hackneyed tactic of the imperialists.

The more the imperialists and class enemies strengthen their anti-revolutionary schemes, the more firmly a revolutionary party should adhere to the class principle and should counter the infiltration of bourgeois ideologies and culture with revolutionary political and ideological offensives. Herein lies a genuine way of defending the precious gains of the revolution obtained with blood and constantly glorifying the honor and dignity of socialism.

Party organizations of all levels and functionaries should concentrate great effort on firmly ensuring consistency in class indoctrination work among party members and the working people. The principle of class struggle which has been adhered to throughout the history of the popular masses' struggle for independence was invariable in the past, is invariable at present, and will be in the future. As long as there exist the imperialist reactionary forces, class struggle is inevitable. And as long as class struggle continues, class, political, and ideological indoctrination work should also continue.

Since long ago our party has extensively elucidated the content and task of revolutionary indoctrination work—class indoctrination work—and the methods for their implementation. All of these policies have become a firm guiding principle that the organizations of our party should still resort to even today when the revolution has entered an advanced stage.

Party organizations should steadily continue to carry through not only the policies on class indoctrination elucidated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his numerous classical works, including his immortal classical works, "On Further Strengthening Class Indoctrination Work Among Party Members" and "On Communist Indoctrination," but also the unique policies that our party has set forth in developing class indoctrination work into a new high stage in conformity with the demands of the work of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea. By so doing party organizations should defend the achievements that our party and the leader have registered in revolutionary indoctrination, class indoctrination, for decades.

When our party's firm and invariable will that there should not be the slightest degree of stalemate or retreat in indoctrinating people in a revolutionary manner is embodied as it is in the activities of all party organizations, the class position of our revolution will be further strengthened. We should pay deep attention to leading party members and the working people to live and struggle in a revolutionary manner without forgetting their class origin.

Our people are the people who had the bitter experience of undergoing all sorts of class and national oppression under the yoke of imperialism and colonialism in the past. They are the people who have come to enjoy a genuine human life for the first time in the bosom of the party and the leader.

However rapidly mountains and rivers may change and however our living environment may change, the class origin of our party members and the working people cannot change. Party organizations should lead all of the working people not to forget their past situation, in which they were exploited and oppressed, but to live and struggle, always cherishing in their hearts the burning hostile feelings toward the class enemies. At the same time, they should also lead the working people not to forget, any where or at any time, their class sense of mission to realize to the end the lofty ideal of the working class, the socialist and communist cause, in this land under the leadership of the party and the leader. In particular, they should correctly educate the coming generation so as to be deeply aware of its class origin.

Party organizations at all levels should lead all youths and children to inherit and follow not only the strong-willed revolutionary spirit of our late revolutionary fighters and numerous well-known and unknown heroic fighters who waged decisive battles in the past against the class enemies, holding aloft their rifles and spears to annihilate those enemies, but also the indomitable fighting spirit with which they effected the great upsurge of Chollima in the most difficult postwar period by smashing all sorts of maneuvers by the enemies. Thus, party organizations at all levels should see to it that every place where our youths live and work seethes with the spirit of the revolutionary song, "Cowards, You Go Away if You Want To Go Away but We Will Defend the Red Flag."

We should strengthen the work of indoctrinating party members and the working people so that they hate capitalism and imperialism with a firm working-class viewpoint. One of the major ideological and mental characteristics of those people carrying out the revolution is the resolute spirit of struggle against imperialism that they have. When one has the delusion of capitalism and imperialism, one's struggle consciousness is paralyzed, and this will ultimately lead one to surrender oneself to the class enemies. This is a serious lesson that history has taught.

Party organizations should lead all of the working people to be deeply aware of the essential nature of the imperialists' aggression and plundering and the reactionary nature of the exploiting class and the exploiting society and should also lead them to have keen class eyes with which they can astutely grasp the deceptive nature of the imperialists' double-dealing tactics. Party organizations should also lead the working people to be deeply aware of the real appearance and anti-popular character of the modern capitalist society—a corrupt and diseased society and a society of the rich- get-richer and the poor-get-poorer—in which people's material life, mental and cultural life, and political life are extremely abnormal, destitute, and reactionary. Thus, party organizations should lead everyone to have firm faith in the absolute superiority of socialism and lofty class dignity and to infinitely look down upon the capitalist system.

We should continue to strengthen the struggle against the ideological and cultural infiltration of imperialism in the future. Party organizations should lead all party members and the working people to have a better knowledge of the aggressive purpose and method of the imperialists' peaceful transition strategy and the reactionary nature of their ideological and cultural infiltration and to approach it with a heightened vigilance.

We should lead our most revolutionary ideology and culture and our superior and sound lifestyle to overflow in the whole area of our country. Thus, we should not allow the corrupt bourgeois ideology and culture that the imperialists are spreading to infiltrate into our society. We should conduct in great depth class indoctrination work among party members and the working people through various forms and methods.

Party organizations at all levels should conduct class indoctrination in close combination with indoctrination on the revolutionary tradition and should properly plan and organize indoctrination work through lecture, dialogue, and revolutionary literary and art works. All party organizations and functionaries should conduct the party's policy of class indoctrination work in a consistent way and, thus, should strengthen by every means the political and ideological might of our revolutionary ranks in conformity with the demands of the developing reality.

South Korea

Northern Musicians Invited to Festival in Seoul

SK1411064590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0543 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 14 (YONHAP)—Hwang Pyong-ki, director of the Seoul traditional arts troupe, sent an invitation to North Korean musicians and reporters Wednesday to attend a year-end Korean traditional music festival in Seoul. Hwang, a professor at Ewha Womans University, invited 30 North Korean musicians and reporters to the Dec. 9-15 festival.

"We would like to hold the traditional music festival in Seoul in the hope of greeting the new year by opening the way to unification and bidding farewell 1990, when significant exchanges between the people in the divided halves of Korea in music and sports began," the invitation said.

Hwang and a group of South Korean musicians recently attended a pan-national concert in Pyongyang organized by Germany-based Korean composer Yun I-sang.

The invitation was addressed to Kim Won-kyun, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Musicians Union, and was passed over to North Korea at the truce village of Panmunjom by liaison officials.

Hwang suggested North Korean musicians give two performances during the festival, of either new arrangements of traditional pieces or new compositions based on traditional music.

Hwang said all the expenses of the stay will be borne by the organizers and the North Koreans will be able to go sightseeing during their 10 days in Seoul.

He said he hoped the North Koreans would come to seoul via the truce village of Panmunjom and that the South Korean Government will make every effort to guarantee their security and safe return .

He asked the North Koreans to send him details such as their names, the repertoire and photographs at an early date.

Dissidents Not Allowed To Meet N. Koreans

SK1411033190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0251 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 14 (YONHAP)—The National Unification Board on Wednesday rejected an application by an umbrella dissident organization for permission to contact North Koreans, a board spokesman said.

"The government decided not to approve the application as the organization has a problem in its eligibility to represent the people," he said.

The application was filed Tuesday by the southern headquarters of the rally, a dissident organization set up by Chonminnyon [National Democratic Alliance of Korea], so that three South Koreans could legally take part in talks with North Koreans and Koreans living abroad in Berlin Nov. 19 on discussing unification of the Korean peninsula.

Academics Invite Northern Colleagues to Seminar

SK1311073490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0639 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean academics said Tuesday they hope to hold a seminar on peace and unification of the Korean peninsula with their North Korean colleagues in Seoul next month.

The association of academic organizations, grouping 14 scholarly bodies, obtained government permission Nov. 8 to invite North Korean scholars to the seminar, scheduled for Dec. 11-12 at the Korea Press Center, an association official said.

The association asked a pro-Pyongyang Korean living in Japan to pass its invitation along to the North Korean academics, he said.

It is the first time a reformist academic organization has been authorized by the South to propose an exchange with the North, the official said.

The seminar, which is intended to restore national identity and promote substantial academic exchange, will discuss culture, language and social sciences in both parts of Korea, he said.

Applications for Contacts With North Soar

SK1511074590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0602 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text]Seoul, Nov. 15 (YONHAP)—Applications by South Koreans to conduct exchanges with North Koreans are surging on the strength of the law on South-North exchanges and cooperation, the National Unification Board said Thursday. In January-October, there were 214 applications to contact North Koreans, up from 37 last year, and 13 applications for exchanges. The law was enacted in August.

Of the applications to contact North Koreans, 85 were for academic and religious reasons, 49 for reunions, 24 for culture and 19 for sports. Of them, 181 were granted, 18 denied and 15 are under consideration. Only 32 applicants achieved their aims, the board said. Seven of the 13 applications for material exchanges were granted, resulting in shipments of 4.54 million U.S. dollars worth of steel products and raw materials.

Former N. Korean General on Kim Il-song

SK1411014090 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 1 Nov 90 p 5

[First installment of memoirs entitled "My Testimony" by Yu Song-chol, former lieutenant general and chief of the Operations Bureau of the North Korean People's Army]

[Text] [Editor's note] Lieutenant General Yu Song-chol, former chief of the Operations Bureau of the North

Korean People's Army, was Kim Il-song's comrade who, together with him, conducted an anti-Japanese movement and a person who, after liberation, founded the People's Army at Kim Il-song's instruction and who, in the end, mapped out the plan for and commanded the 25 June war. Therefore, Mr. Yu is one of the few witnesses who can testify how the Kim Il-song regime was founded and how false the Kim Il-song myth, which is filled with distortions and exaggerations, is. Following its exclusive coverage in June last year of a testimony by Lieutenant General Yi Sang-cho, deputy chief of general staff of the North Korean People's Army, HANGUK ILBO has decided to carry Mr. Yu's memoirs and to disclose secret stories about the Kim Il-song regime. Despite the concern that, if we disclose them at a time when more conciliatory moods are prevailing than ever before due to the North- South High-Level Talks and sports exchanges, this will affect North-South relations, we have decided to carry Mr. Yu's memoirs because we judged that efforts to disclose historical truths will consequently contribute to substantial reconciliation between the North and South. The first installment of Mr. Yu's testimony is on secret stories on the "88th Special Independent Ambush Brigade" in Khabarovsk.

My first meeting with Kim Il-song was not so impressive. Kim Il- song, whom I met at the battalion commander's office, a shabby five-pyong [one pyong equals 3.3 square meters] log house, was lean and weak. Therefore, he did not look like a partisan. His mouth was always open, maybe because he was suffering from hypertrophic rhinitis.

Kim Il-song gladly shook my hand and said, "Can you, comrade, speak Korean?" When I said, "Yes," he said, "Then, work for me as a Russian interpreter."

Kim Il-song asked me whether I could speak Korean or not because he knew that I was a third-generation Korean-Soviet who had been raised in the Soviet Union.

The place I met Kim Il-song in September 1943 was the office of the commander of the First Battalion of the 88th Special Independent Ambush Brigade in a wooded area approximately 80 km northwest of Khabarovsk, the Soviet maritime province.

This unit—under an extraordinary name—was a secret scouting unit established in July 1942 by the Soviet Army in the Far East to collect military information on the Japanese troops which, after occupying Manchuria, had kept an eye on all of China.

Even though it was called a brigade, this was a multiracial battalion-level unit comprised of approximately 600 Chinese, Koreans, and Soviets. There were 60 Koreans.

The unit was comprised of five staffs, including the Rear Service, Security, Political, Military, and Medical Staffs; four battalions; and a signal unit. In addition, the unit had an independent Chinese language school and an independent accounting company. This unit was operated by the Soviet Army in reality. However, its commander was Senior Colonel Zhou Baozhong, a Chinese. Kim Il-song's anti-Japanese activities are not complete without mentioning Senior Colonel Zhou Baozhong.

Comrades who served with me in this unit said that Kim Il-song had worked at a partisan guerrilla unit under China's Eighth Route Army. There were many Koreans in this partisan unit called the Northeast Anti-Japanese United Army. Kim Il-song, commander of the Sixth Division of the Second Army—a middle-level cadre—commanded approximately 100 troops. Of course, there were Koreans who were higher than Kim Il-song.

Zhou Baozhong was one of the commanders of this partisan unit. Kim Il-song was arrested by the Soviet Army when he crossed the Soviet border after being chased by Japanese expeditionary forces. Zhou Baozhong was Kim Il-song's benefactor because Zhou Baozhong stood a surety for Kim Il-song's release.

Infiltrating into areas where the Japanese troops were stationed and gathering information was the 88th Brigade's major mission. In step with this, the troops of this unit had marksmanship, radio communications, and parachute training.

Training was hard and strict. It started at 0600 and ended at 2300. The Soviet Army stressed political indoctrination on communism because it had the long-range goal of sending the troops of this unit to China and Korea to establish communist regimes in case of Japan's downfall.

When training was over to a certain degree, troops were sent to Manchuria on many occasions to gather information.

I was sent to this unit in September 1943. That was the first time I met Kim Il-song. Because I worked as an interpreter for Kim Il-song, I was not personally involved in intelligence-gathering activities.

Unlike the Kim Il-song now, he was not well-built at that time. One may easily understand how he was if I tell you this episode. At one time, he put on skis and went out for an outdoor training. Because he was exhausted, he moved after tying himself to one of his troops with ropes.

However, Kim Il-song was thought to be very smart and to have leadership. I think that this is why the Soviets liked him. Kim Il-song was not good in Russian. However, because he had been carrying out his activities in Manchuria for a long time, he was relatively good in Chinese.

In addition to Kim Il-song, the cadres of the 88th brigade included Kim Chaek (battalion political commissar), Choe Yong-kon (brigade political commissar), Kang Kon (fourth battalion commander and father of Kang Song-san, former premier of the [DPRK] Administration Council), and Yi Tong-hwa (brigade doctor). They were higher than or as high as Kim Il-song.

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As their names indicate, Koreans who were in the 88th brigade became Kim Il-song' first-class meritorious retainers by helping him build his regime after the liberation.

General's Memoirs Continued

SK1411050290 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 3 Nov 90 p 6

[Third installment of memoirs entitled "My Testimony," by Yu Song-chol, lieutenant general and chief of the Operational Bureau of the North Korean People's Army]

[Text] Captain Kim Il-song, commander of the first battalion—this was exactly the position and rank of Kim Il-song whom I met for the first time in the 88th special independent sharp-shooting brigade (88th brigade in abbreviation) in Khabarovsk in September 1943.

Kim Il-song, who was then 31 years old, was called the "leader [yongjang]," "commander [sajang]," and "comrade [tongji]," all meaning commander; but he was not called general.

The person with the highest rank among 60-odd Koreans in the 88th brigade was Major Yi Tong-hwa, chief of medical unit of the brigade, who later served as North Korea's vice public health minister. Kang Kon, commander of the fourth battalion (former Chief of General Staff of the North Korean Army); Choe Yong-kon, political member of the brigade (former North Korean Vice President); Kim Chaek, battalion political member (former North Korean frontline commander) and An Kil (former chief of general staff) were all captains, just as Kim Il-song.

However, since Kim Il-song was the commander of the unit which embraced the largest number of Korean soldiers, he played the central role among the Koreans.

In particular, Kim Il-song seemed to have had considerable authority among 25 Koreans who waged anti-Japanese resistance struggle together with him as an anti-Japanese guerrilla force during the era of the Northeast Anti-Japanese Allied Forces in Manchuria.

Now, I would like to briefly introduce the personal career of those who were from these guerrilla forces because after they returned to North Korea, they became members of the bodyguards who established the Kim Il-song regime after expelling all competing forces, and some of them are still holding the core positions of power.

First, Choe Yong-kon is an orthodox soldier who was an instructor at the Whampao Military Academy in China. He carried out the anti-Japanese guerrilla movement in Manchuria in the 1920's according to the directive of the Communist Party of China.

Choe Yong-kon was senior to Kim Il-song in terms of a career of struggle. However, they were close friends in the brigade.

Kim Chaek also has a record of brilliant struggle in Manchuria. He showed outstanding tactics in political organizational work rather than in military strategy.

Kim Chaek was an intimate friend of Kim Il-song. But he died a suspicious death in January 1951 while holding the post of a frontline commander immediately after the Korean war broke out. Kang Kon excelled in military tactics. He won the confidence of the Soviet people more than Kim Il-song in the 88th brigade.

Kang Kon absolutely obeyed the order of the Soviet people. He was a typical soldier who devoted himself only to his duty and worked without wandering eyes. For this, he remained in Northeast Manchuria even after the 88th brigade was dissolved after the nation's liberation, and continued to carry out activities there. He returned to North Korea belatedly in 1946 and held the post of the second-term Chief of General Staff. He played the main role in the Korean war. He is the father of Kang Song-san, former premier of the Administration Council.

Although Choe Hyon, commander of the political company of the first battalion, had a lower rank than Kim Il-song, he was also a very close friend of Kim Il-song because he waged guerrilla activities for a long time in Manchuria with Kim Il-song. Although he had no regular education, he was rich in using common sense, and had a fluent command of Chinese. In addition, he educated his unit members on the history of the Soviet Communist Party.

An Kil is a unique figure who was formerly a clergyman and later joined Kim Il-song's guerrilla unit in Manchuria after being brought around to the unit by its agent.

Worthy of being a clergyman, he was genial and very friendly to the people. He was willing to undertake arduous tasks with a positive attitude. For this, even Kim Il-song treated him with consideration.

So Chol, battalion political member, graduated from a medical college in China, and thus had the highest educational background among the members of the guerrilla unit who have had no higher education.

He was chosen as one of the Korean leaders at an early stage but his position was gradually taken over by Kim Il-song. Thus, he and Kim Il-song were not on good terms. However, when he returned to North Korea, he won Kim Il-song's trust and held the position of director of the general Political Bureau of the People's Army. Later, he retired as a Political Bureau member.

To Pak Song-chol, the incumbent North Korean vice president, the era of the 88th brigade is remembered disgracefully.

Pak, then a platoon leader, one day left for the Soviet-Manchuria border with the mission of collecting information on the deployment of Japanese troops in the border area and of reporting this information. After spending more than a week-long operating, Pak sent some very important military intelligence by radio.

However, this report was later revealed to be false after an attempt for verification. Thus, Pak was demoted from an officer to an enlisted man. Feeling disgraced, Pak made a commotion by attempting suicide by taking opium.

Choe Yong-chin, commander of the first company, also has a memory he disliked to recall. With radical and violent character, he shot his own father to death as his father was sentenced to death at a trial by the guerrilla unit for treason after being arrested by the Japanese police.

In North Korea, he held posts of corps commander, vice defense minister and fishery minister. He is reported to be now stricken with paralysis.

Yim Chun-chu, who became famous for having written Kim Il-song's biography, was known to be incompetent as a guerrilla. But he excelled in Chinese and in Chinese medicine. During the Korean war, he was commander of the East Coast Defense Command but was punished for a operation failure. He was later reinstated by writing Kim Il-song's biography and promoted to even the vice presidency of the nation.

O Chin-u, the incumbent minister of North Korea's People's Armed Forces, was then deputy leader of the first platoon of the first battalion. I had had no personal relations with him at that time. His character was known to be very inquisitive.

In addition, those who were under the command of Kim Il-song's guerrilla force are as follows:

Han Ik-su, former director of political bureau of the Armed Forces; Chon Mun-sop, incumbent vice minister of the People's Armed Forces; Kim Kyong-sok, former chairman of the Pyongyang municipal party committee; Kim Ik-hyon, incumbent vice minister of the People's Armed Forces; Yi Ul-sol, incumbent director of the bureau of the bodyguard force; Yi Tu-ik, incumbent member of the Central Military Committee; Cho Chong-chol, incumbent deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA]; Kim Song-kuk, incumbent SPA deputy; Kim Yong-yon, incumbent SPA deputy; Yi Pong-su, incumbent director of Publication Guidance Bureau; Hwang Sun-hui, incumbent director of the Revolutionary Museum and Tae Pyong-yol, incumbent director of the Fatherland Liberation Museum.

These former guerrilla unit members, who fought together by crossing many death lines in mountainous areas in Manchuria, were united with one another based on their unique affection and comradeship.

Unlike them, 12 Koreans who were from the Soviet Union including myself faced Kim Il-song with unemotional, serene feelings.

After I was assigned to the financial company, I acted as a Russian interpreter for Kim Il-song but I had not had many chances to personally meet Kim Il-song.

Since there were many Chinese in the 88th brigade who waged intelligence collection activities after having infiltrated into Manchuria, all education and training was conducted in Chinese, and on many occasions, even Koreans spoke with each other in Chinese.

Those Soviet and Korean people who did not know Chinese received separate education and training in Russian and those former guerrilla unit members and Koreans from the Soviet Union had to speak in Korean.

Since Kim Il-song lived in the Soviet Union briefly for about 2 years, he could speak a little Russian. Thus, there was not a serious need for a Russian interpreter for him.

At times I translated Russian books into Korean and gave them to Kim Il-song. I still clearly remember the time when I translated with my whole heart a booklet entitled "Overview of Korea's Geography."

Just like myself, the Koreans from the Soviet Union returned to North Korea together with Kim Il-song after the national liberation, and played an important role in founding North Korea. However, unlike the former guerrilla unit members, they were either purged or expelled to the Soviet Union midway.

Thus, Kim Il-song only completely trusted the former guerrilla unit members, and he did not try to trust the others.

The only person who still remained in North Korea among our 12 Koreans from the Soviet Union is Kim Pong-yul, who held the position of vice minister of the People's Armed Forces.

He was assigned to the 88th brigade after being expelled from a state-run Soviet farm, where he worked as a manager, for poor records. He served as a plain enlisted man in the 88th brigade. He was kindhearted, and faithfully obeyed the regulations of the unit.

After the nation's liberation, he worked as director of propaganda department in Sinuiju municipal party committee where Kim Il, former guerrilla unit member, was the chairman. He could survive under the Kim Il-song system because he won the confidence of Kim Il.

Mun Il, my close friend who was communications platoon leader in the 88th brigade, was one of the close associates of Kim Il-song who served as an aide to Kim Il-song for a long time since the nation's liberation. However, he was finally abandoned and expelled to the Soviet Union.

I myself led the founding of the People's Army and was directly engaged in the Korean war as director of the Operational Bureau of the People's Army. However, I was deprived of the rank and party membership during the 1959 purge, and was forced to return to Tashkent.

When I visited North Korea in May after 30 years, I noted that someone else, other than me, was recorded as the director of the Operational Bureau during the Korean war.

Not satisfied with having deprived me of my past position which I won by devoting all my passion of youth, Kim Il-song totally erased my name from history of North Korea.

N-S 'Integration' Requires Cultural Exchange

SK1311054890 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 12 Nov 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Cultural Exchange for National Integration—The Philosophy of Reunification Should Be Correctly Established First"]

[Text] The opera "The Flower Girl" is a heavy obstacle hindering the visits to home villages. This proves that "culture" can be exploited as a "hostage" for "negotiations over reunification." Also, it shows how meaningless it is to hastily judge that a music festival for reunification or a North-South film exchange have served as events to open a "breakthrough."

Unlike the South—where forces and groups which are coming out with banners for all types of exchanges and are overflowing everywhere in a disorderly manner by capitalizing on the fever of reunification, the attraction of the moment—the North is showing an orderly and water-tight posture. We are not unaware of what the Red Cross Society of the North took into account when it set forth the proposal for exchanging "art troupes" plus home-visiting groups. Nevertheless, it is deplorable to see deliberate forgetfulness and realities in which an illusion of the realization of "cultural exchanges" is being aroused. At least it is obvious that the culture and art of the North have not yet been extricated from its duty of "serving an ideology and system."

The emotional attitude of many naive and good-natured citizens, who do not reason with these realities, adds a new burden to the policy-making authorities. Some of these citizens ask in an displeased manner "why it is dangerous to show one revolutionary opera or North Korean films to university students and why should an endless waste of energy continue through exchanges of Molotov cocktails and tear gas canisters." However, the problem is not that simple, because the North has not yet given up its illusion of reunification through communization and has obviously adhered to the stand of using what is called cultural exchange only for the strategic purpose.

We believe it a principle of cultural exchange to draw out a blueprint for "cultural reunification" to become an integrated nation without being trapped into such a snare. Only then can we find a cause for readjusting our stand toward domestic confusion.

Correctly establishing our logic is needed to make it possible to regard the showing of films "serving an ideology" and an art performance of "mobilized masses" as a pure nongovernmental function on the basis of reciprocity and to interpret a music festival arranged by pro-North overseas Koreans, who even arbitrarily select reporters from our side, as a "pure function for cultural exchange."

To this end, we should first discuss whether the primary aim of cultural exchanges lies in the role of contributing to the progress of reunification now or whether it lies in the role of contributing to building the future of a reunified country.

These questions would not be discussed by easily separating them from each other. However, we can take many things into account in the course of deciding the order of priorities and setting stages.

First of all, it is demanded that our philosophy of reunification be correctly established. On one hand, we can reach a consensus that forming a single nation-state is of absolute supreme value to human beings; on the other hand, we can agree that the freedom of human beings cannot be sacrificed for the purpose of forming a single nation-state. Also, it may be that these two concepts are too closely united to see separately.

In any case, a full debate over this question is needed. Even in Germany which we believe has been reunified in an idealistic manner, the intellect (Guinter Gras) says with a sigh that "we have failed to achieve national integration because we hastened reunification too fast."

The North and the South have lived different lives over the past 45 years. As far as we perceive, North Korea went through sufferings under the invasion of the Japanese imperialists for 36 years and have undergone dictatorship under the communist system for 45 years. In other words, the North has been under two types of dictatorship for 80 years. After reunification we will see those 20 million residents who have lived this way in the North. We should basically think of this past. It is, of course, important to hold traditional folk festivals to recover homogeneity. However, it is not simple to do so, because the nation has become extremely heterogeneous.

In view of our realities in which there exists disagreement and conflict over the question of who should play the main role in exchanges, we think that we should discuss and reach an agreement on the question lest we should drain our energy.

It is natural and reasonable for both the government and civilians to jointly play the main role in cultural exchanges. Also, there is no need to be depressed by large-scale art performances designed to deliver an ideological message. Furthermore, it is meaningless and stupid to set large stages in a hasty manner to compete with the North. We think it more important to make the effort to share and recover the history of the Korean nation by performing programs with general content and common national emotions. It is North Korea that has been alienated from our history and has distorted it for 80 years. It is most important to regard recovering heterogeneity as the top priority in cultural exchanges.

We expect that the policy of cultural exchange which idealistically combines the far-sighted outlook for the time after reunification with the near-sighted concept of expediting reunification will be in the manner which we have mutually agreed upon.

Government Resists U.S. on TV Commercial Issue

SK1511050790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0301 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 15 (YONHAP)—American businessmen are likely to be accused of interfering in South Korea's domestic affairs for demanding that commercial air time be increased as part of advertisement market opening measures.

The American Chamber of Commerce (Amcham) has urged Korea to allow afternoon broadcasting and provide details of plans for cable television and private broadcasting companies, officials at the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) said Thursday.

The demands, made in a two-day closed-door meeting (Nov. 2-3) between Korean and AMCHAM representatives co-sponsored by KIEP, came at a time when the Korean Government is spurring the nation, faced with bleak economic prospects, to adopt austerity measures to tide over the looming oil crisis. On Tuesday, it unveiled a comprehensive package of energy conservation measures ranging from the curtailment of entertainment business hours and reducing building temperatures.

Amcham is already under fire from the Korean public for its "interference" in the host nation's domestic affairs with its demands for an immediate halt to an allegedly government-initiated campaign against extravagant spending, insisting the frugality drive is intended to affect import policies.

Amcham officials said at the meeting the Korean Government was liberalizing its advertisement market and encouraging joint ventures with foreign companies, but problems exist in securing commercial air time, said Choe In-pum, a senior KIEP official in charge of American affairs.

Commercial air time in Korea is extremely short compared to other countries, Amcham representatives said, and as a foreign agency Amcham is disadvantaged further.

They suggested that the government extend broadcasting into the afternoon, increase the time allotment for commercials and allow equal advertisement opportunities for foreigners.

Government officials stated clearly that the suggestions had to do with domestic broadcasting regulations, not market liberalization policies, and that extending broadcast hours was a purely domestic issue. Commercial time will increase one a private station goes on the air late next year, Choe said.

U.S. Efforts To Open Korean Market Condemned

SK1511101590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0818 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 15 (YONHAP)—A leading South Korean newspaper accused the United States in a front-page lead story Thursday of trying to "Americanize" the Korean market and of making market-opening demands that could be interpreted as interference in internal affairs.

TONG-A ILBO reported, in a long nine-column story accompanied by an inside-page feature on the American Chamber of Commerce (Amcham) and an editorial on "America's hasty trade pressure," lashed out at what it called "an indiscriminate attack" on all market practices in Korea that are disadvantageous to American firms.

The influential daily said: "The United States has gone beyond the multilateral negotiations of the Uruguay Round as the international negotiations are in the last stage and is trying to get rid of all market practices that hamper the operation of American firms in the Republic of Korea by taking bilateral trade pressures. Such a U.S. move was confirmed in the meeting between Korean and Amcham representatives (Nov. 2-3), the Korea-U.S. financial policy talks and other contacts between the two nations this month."

In the Amcham meeting, the Americans characterized an anti-overconsumption campaign being conducted by the government and private organizations as an "anti-import" drive and called for its cancellation, and asked for more commercials on Korean television.

Quoting Korean officials, the evening paper said, "the U.S. side took the tack of inquiring of our government's opinions, but as the issues raised are directly related to Korean law and to broadcasting policy the action can be interpreted as interference in internal affairs.

"In connection with the anti-overconsumption drive, the United States claims that the Korean Government is virtually encouraging a strong anti-import campaign...The United States, citing the withdrawal of import counters from a few department stores and the declining sales of U.S.-made (Ford) Sable cars, argues that the Korean Government is strengthening import restrictions through tax audits and other measures and hints at the possibility of retaliation."

TONG-A said U.S. Assistant Treasury Secretary Charles Dallara cautioned at the end of the financial talks that his government might retaliate by naming Korea a country discriminating against foreign banks. "Government officials are worried that the U.S. trade pressure on Korea could grow more if the Uruguay Round is not settled as planned," the paper said. The editorial warned America that its "extremely hasty" pressure might rekindle anti-Americanism among Korean youths.

"...In spite of all that, we cannot but express regret about the numerous demands with which the United States seems to drive us into a corner... We are steadily increasing imports from the United States and when it makes numerous demands in an extremely hasty manner, it is absurd itself and may possibly offer a good excuse for an anti-American movement among young students.

"We are now restructuring our industry, as it is inevitable to increase the farmers' income and to absorb the farming population into other sectors. When this plan is implemented as scheduled, our imports from the United States will rise. We have to point out that Korea, whose economic dependency on exports is 38 percent, should not be treated equally with Japan, where the rate is only 10 percent," TONG-A said.

Choe, Solomon Discuss Persian Gulf Crisis

SK1511053490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0308 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 15 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung discussed the Persian Gulf crisis, inter-Korean relations and U.N. membership over breakfast with Richard Solomon, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, on Thursday.

The two also talked about the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, Korea-U.S. trade and Seoul's northern policy of improving ties with communist nations, said Pan Ki-mun, the foreign ministry's director-general for American affairs, who attended the breakfast along with U.S. Ambassador Donald Gregg.

Choe and Solomon exchanged opinions on the increasing U.S. pressure to open Korea's agricultural market, but failed to narrow their differences. Choe called for understanding of his government's campaign to curb overconsumption, explaining that it was aimed at enhancing a sound social atmosphere not at restricting imports as the U.S. Administration claims. The two officials reaffirmed the common belief that inter-Korean relations should be improved and that South Korea should be admitted to the United Nations at an early date. They agreed to make efforts for successful settlement of the Uruguay Round and to ease the bilateral trade friction.

Solomon was to leave Thursday afternoon after meeting Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun and Presidential Aide for Diplomacy and Security Kim Chong-hwi.

Soviet Ambassador to Pyongyang To Be Replaced

SK1511093290 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 15 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP)—The Soviet Union has decided, in the wake of its establishment of diplomatic relations with the ROK, to replace its ambassador to North Korea with [Aleksandr Semenovich] Kapto, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Ideological Department, according to a KYODO report from Moscow dated 14 November citing a Soviet government source.

In the meantime, it has been revealed that Sokolov, present Soviet ambassador to the Philippines, will be appointed as first Soviet ambassador to the ROK.

Yeltsin Writes to No, Hopes To Visit Seoul

SK1511015590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0135 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 15 (OANA-YONHAP)—Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Republic, has written to South Korean President No Tae-u saying he would like to visit Seoul, a government source said Thursday.

The letter was delivered by Yeltsin aide V. Lukin, chairman of the Russian Republic Parliament's Committee for International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations, during a visit here early this month, said the source, who declined to be named.

Yeltsin wrote that he hoped to discuss increasing economic cooperation between South Korea and his republic in line with the progress in Korea-Soviet ties, the source said.

Lukin, who returned home Nov. 9, was invited by the Research Institute for Nordpolitik of Korea, run by top No aide Pak Chol-on, to exchange opinions with government officials on ways to enhance economic cooperation.

Pak, a former first state minister for political affairs and a key architect of No's northern policy to improve relations with Communist nations, passed the letter to No, the source said.

Soviet Delegates for Upcoming Visit Named

SK1511081790 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 12 Nov 90 p 30

[Text] Vadim Andreyvich Medvedev, member of the Soviet Presidential Council, will fly into Seoul Nov. 16, leading a 14-man mission, the Korea-USSR Economic Association said Oct. 31.

While here until Nov. 23, Medvedev and other mission members will meet with Korean government and business leaders to promote business and technology cooperation between Seoul and Moscow.

He is the highest-ranking Soviet official to visit Seoul since Korea and the Soviet Union set up diplomatic tie in Sept.

Among the members of the Soviet mission will be A.I. Milyukov, director of the Department of Social and Economic Analysis at the Office of the Soviet President; A.M. Prokhorov, secretary of Department of General Physics of the USSR Academy of Science; and M.G.

Kruglov, vice chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology.

Firms' Competition To Trade With USSR Viewed

SK1511081590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Nov 90 p 6

[Text] The government plans to put the brakes on the cut-throat competition among Korean businesses who are fighting to take larger market shares in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, officials said yesterday.

The large business conglomerates in particular are now waging fierce competition to conclude "reckless" export contracts with Soviet importers, often at the risk of heavy losses to receive larger portions of the economic cooperation fund. The government plans to dole out the fund in accordance with the Soviet's actual purchase amount from the Korean firms, they said.

Related government ministries, therefore, will work out detailed regulations to curb the blind rush to the "northern" countries, coordinating the businesses' trade and investment from initial stages of projects, the officials said.

According to business sources, large industrial groups, or chaebol, have vied to sign export contracts with the Soviet federal and republican administrations ever since the San Francisco summit meeting between President No Tae-u and Mikhail Gorbachev in June. A rumor then had it that Seoul agreed to provide economic cooperation loans to Moscow.

The contention among chaebols, including Hyundai, Samsung, Lucky-Goldstar and Daewoo, was triggered by the government's reported plan to grant credits amounting to about $3 billion on condition that the Soviet buy Korean products, the sources said.

The larger the export contracts, the bigger the actual loan retrieval portion through the business activities, therefore market preemption is essential, the sources said.

Among the contracts already concluded by business are Hyundai's $1-billion project to develop forestry and mineral resources, Daewoo's $1-billion deal to ship electronic and other consumer goods, Goldstar's $800-million electronic plant exports and Samsung's $900-million telecommunications system exports, they said.

Most of the trade and investment projects announced by private businesses to be undertaken in the Soviet Union have yet to start detailed agreements and some of them are even overlapped or double-contracted by different Korean firms, the government officials said.

This shows that the businesses jumpstarted the projects without careful feasibility and market studies, creating the need for the government to coordinate their businesses from the planning stage, they said.

In this regard, the Ministry of Trade and Industry considers setting up a committee to establish export order to the socialist bloc and ask the exporters to obtain prior approval before shipments to the region.

Some importers in these countries have induced price-cutting competition among Korean firms, capitalizing on their fierce competition.

The ministry will also streamline the export outlets for competitive items and set the floor prices for certain products.

Fifteen local electronics markers have recently requested the government for a measure to minimize their losses resulting from disorderly shipments in the region.

The Ministry of Finance will require the firms to report any investment worth $1 million or more in the socialist countries, utilizing toughened regulations.

Kim In-ho, assistant minister of economic planning for international economic policy coordination, said yesterday that the government will put a strict curb on the reckless advance in the countries with an interministerial package of regulation and said any violators will face "proper" business damages.

Direct Sea Line to USSR To Open in December

SK1011034990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0237 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union have agreed to open a direct sea line in December, the Korea Maritime and Port Administration [KMPA] said Saturday.

The agreement was reached in the third round of working-level maritime talks between two Korean shipping companies—Hyundai Merchant Marine and Chonkyong Shipping—and the Far East Shipping Corp. (FESCO) in Seoul Friday, a KMPA spokesman said.

Under the agreement, each side will put a 300-TEU (twenty-foot equivalent unit) container ship weekly on the 816-kilometer route between Pusan, the largest Korean port, and Vostochny in the Soviet Far East, the spokesman said.

The route will contribute to direct transportation of goods between the two nations, which opened full diplomatic ties in September, as well as on the trans-Siberian railroad between Europe and Korea, the spokesman said.

The rate will be 500 to 600 U.S. dollars per TEU. But the two sides failed to agree on forming a joint shipping agent and will have further discussions on the matter, he said. They agreed that the Soviet shortage of containers be solved by the Soviet Union so as not to hinder transportation.

Cities Establish Sisterhood Ties With Soviets

SK1011100190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0653 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—Major port cities in Korea and the Soviet Union established sisterhood ties on Friday, the first such link between the two countries that completed diplomatic normalization Sept. 30. Ruling party lawmaker Hong Hui-pyo, representing the east coast city of Tonghae, signed the agreement with Nakhodka Mayor I.G. Ustinov [as received].

Pharmaceutical Firms Seek USSR, PRC Deals

SK1211091590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0529 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—Eight South Korean pharmaceutical manufacturers are seeking to introduce technology or undertake joint-venture projects to produce medical products in the Soviet Union and China.

Chosun Pharmaceutical & Trading Co., Hansung Enterprise Co. and one other company have agreed to produce pharmaceutical products with the socialist countries, officials at the Health and Social Affairs Ministry said Monday.

In addition, Ilyang Pharmaceutical Ind. and four other companies are negotiating with Soviet pharmaceutical makers to introduce new technology, the officials said.

Chosun concluded a joint-venture contract with Soviet pharmaceutical authorities in July to produce rantarin pantocrin, an ingredient in tonics.

Hansung has exchanged letters of intent to set up a joint-venture company with the Beijing Medicinal Materials Corp. in China to produce "angong wu huang qing xim wan," which is made from ox bezoar and reputed among Koreans to be a cure for almost every disease known to man.

Kolon is negotiating with the Soviets to introduce production technology for strobacterin, an antibiotic. Hansuh, Hanmi, Ilyang and Kwangdong are seeking to introduce technology for cancer treatments, according to the officials.

Cooperation with the Soviet Union and China will be highly profitable because those nations possess a high level of medical and pharmaceutical technology but lack the skill to industrialize it, an area in which Korean companies excel.

Premier Meets PRC's Wu Xueqian in Tokyo

SK1411085290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0748 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun said Wednesday that he met Chinese Vice Prime Minister Wu Xueqian and discussed ways to promote cooperation between their nations.

Kang, speaking on his return from the enthronement of Japanese Emperor Akihito, said he met Wu during a royal dinner at the imperial palace on Monday evening. Kang said he proposed normalizing Seoul-Beijing relations at an early date but Wu responded, "it will go well, if we go steadily." Kang refused to speculate on when the two nations will open diplomatic ties.

President No Holds Summit With Hungary's Goncz

SK1511050390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0312 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 15 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u and Hungarian President Arpad Goncz discussed ways to promote bilateral cooperation and other matters of mutual concern in summit talks here Thursday.

No told a joint news conference that the two heads of state felt "satisfaction" with the rapid growth of cooperation in diplomatic, economic and social fields, such as trade and personnel exchanges, since the two nations established full diplomatic ties in February 1989.

Goncz said, "I am convinced that my present visit and our personal talks will open new vistas in our relations based on full confidence, mutual understanding, and mutual respect for each other's interest." Goncz arrived Wednesday evening for a four-day state visit at the invitation of No.

"We have agreed to actively share developmental experience and expertise and to encourage continued expansion of trade and economic cooperation," the Korean president said.

The two leaders discussed improving the conditions for Korean investment in Hungary, improving cooperation in construction and telecommunications and abolishing travel visas. "We have also agreed to improve conditions for more active joint ventures between the businesses of the two countries. I have indicated that it would be desirable to develop closer cooperation in such fields as construction, communication and science and technology," No said.

"This is clearly demonstrated by the fact that President No and myself have agreed that our experts will begin talks on the early conclusion on an agreement on the full abolition of visa for travel by citizens of both countries," the Hungarian leader said. "Also, in the economic field of great importance to us, we have experienced a great measure of willingness in respect to our concrete proposals for the development of relations," Goncz said. The two leaders said they also conferred about international situation, including on Korean peninsula and East Europe.

"I have explained to President Goncz our realistic policies to remove cold war confrontation from the Korean peninsula and to bring about reconciliation and peaceful unification in Korea. I would like to express my appreciation for the support and understanding President Goncz has indicated," No said.

No said they reviewed the rapidly developing international situation with particular reference to Europe and Northeast Asia, and exchanged candid and cooperative views regarding the development of bilateral relations. "We were pleased to state that we held identical or closely similar views on most of the issues discussed," said the Hungarian leader, adding that they exchanged views on question of East-West relations and the world economy and other mutual concern.

No highly evaluated Hungary for having been playing a pioneering role in removing the East-West barrier and bringing forth a new reconciliation and cooperation throughout the world. He also hailed the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries as a "momentous decision that set the world history to a new path."

The Hungarian president asked No to dispatch a sales promotion delegation to Hungary as part of Seoul's efforts to correct trade imbalance between the two countries and asked for Korea's participation in the 1995 international trade fair to be jointly hosted by Hungary and Austria, Presidential Spokesman Yi Su-chung said.

Goncz is the first Hungarian head of state to make an official visit to Korea. His visit reciprocates No's to Budapest in November 1989. The Hungarian president is to meet with National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu and Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun later in the day and attend a state dinner hosted by No in Chongwadae in the evening.

Hungarian Ambassador in Seoul Views Relations

SK1511065590 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES (Supplement) in English 15 Nov 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Korea and Hungary have dedicated a firm "bridge" recovering their geographic distance and are gradually crowding it with brisk exchanges of people, culture, materials and suchlike.

Their relations, confined to the private level before the two countries established diplomatic ties on Feb. 1 last year, have swiftly expanded to all sectors with much room for further development.

Government-to-government contacts have grown so fast as to see President No Tae-u's trip to Hungary a year ago and Hungarian President Arpad Goncz reciprocate the state visit this time.

Hungarian Amb. Sandor Etre deems Goncz's visit as testimony to friendly relations which Republic of Korea and the Republic of Hungary have nurtured so far.

"His visit will surely bring fresh impetus to bilateral relations of amity and cooperation in general and understanding between the heads of state in particular," he told The Korea Times.

He seemed greatly proud that Goncz, who had been sentenced to life imprisonment for dissident activities in 1958 under the staunch communist regime, was elected president by the National Assembly, formed through free vote last spring which he said is a symbol of Hungary's drastic political reform into a liberal democracy.

Hungary, which declared its participation in the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games before all other socialist countries, conformed with Korea's initiatives to normalize relations with North Korean allies in the East and shortly before the summer sports extravaganza it agreed to open its permanent mission in Seoul.

It braved instant, bitter repercussions from Pyongyang and eventually triggered a rush of its neighboring socialist countries to Seoul for the games and later for diplomatic links.

"We are very satisfied with the developments which we have witnessed in our relations with the Republic of Korea. Previously longtime unknown, we have now set the stage for exemplary cooperation," he said in retrospect of over two years of his service as head of the permanent mission and later as ambassador.

"We have prepared every fundamental step for full-fledged cooperation in political, cultural, scientific, technological, sports and other realms. We have signed nine agreements and installed joint committees to translate them into action."

The Hungarian Embassy in Seoul issued visas for a little less than 5,000 Koreans last year. From the onset of this year through October, over 7,000 Koreans were granted entry visas, and procedures for the visa issuance were much reduced.

Public and private research institutes and universities have exchanged researchers, professors and students under bilateral programs. They include the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation and the Hungarian Academy of Science, among others.

Hungarian musicians, dancers and painters have introduced their endowments lto enthusiastic Koreans while a Korean samulnori team—a four-member percussionist group—performed traditional music in Budapest.

Economic and trade sectors are, however, more typical of rapidly growing ties between the two peoples of the same linguistic origin than any others, he noted.

Two-way trade has doubled every year since 1988. It reached $30 million in 1988, $60 million in 1989 and it is expected to come to an estimated $120 million this year.

Yet it remains in favor of Korea. "We do not want to balance the trade by putting a curb on Korea's exports. We could rectify the trade problem by giving our products more access to the Korean market with decreased tariffs," Amb. Etre said. Talks on reduction of tariffs are under way but with no tangible progress.

He cautiously called for imports of quality Hungarian farm produce such as beef, pork and acasia honey in a manner that does not harm Korean farmers.

He also stressed the need for Korea's increased investment at a time when Hungary is launching a massive denationalization program wiping out communist legacy, especially in electronic, chemical, medicine, textile and transportation equipment industries.

It is desirable that Korea put Hungarians' invention patents into industrial and commercial use, adding that the level of Hungary's basic research is given a high mark by Korean experts.

"It will bring benefits both to Koreans and Hungarians if you invest in my country now and commercialize our inventions ahead of your competitors in other countries."

Etre, who had spent more than a decade in North Korea as a student, embassy staff and ambassador, assumes an optimistic perspective on inter-Korean relations partly because of favorable international circumstances for detente between the North and the South and partly because of their high-level dialogue channel.

"I believe the changing international political trend would combine with Koreans' efforts to put an end to the cold war vestige. If South and North Korea keep holding dialogue and try to exchange people and materials, they would be able to improve their relations and build confidence to march toward reunification," he viewed.

As to Korea's entry into the United Nations, a very sensitive issue being discussed in the South and North Korean prime ministers' talks, he said that Hungary supports the admission to the world body by all sovereign states wishing for the UN membership in accordance with the UN principle of universality.

"The Republic of Korea deserves the right to join the United Nations. We have already expressed this position in the foreign minister's speech to the UN General Assembly this year."

"In this context, each side shall enjoy the right to decide on the issue at its own full discretion irrespective of their agreement or non-agreement in on-going working-level talks on the UN matter," he said.

Seoul has been determined to apply for the UN membership unless Pyongyang is persuaded to do simultaneously. In the meantime, Pyongyang is proposing for the sharing of one UN seat for alternate representation or for the delay of application till reunification.

Amb. Etre said, "Hungary has played a great part in making precedent for historic, political, economic and social changes in Central and Eastern European countries. In the course of these changes, we have opened up a new era of reconciliation, friendship and cooperation with the Republic of Korea. I am very proud of my service in this crucial juncture.

KFTA Aims at Opening East Europe to Businesses

SK1411042590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0244 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 14 (YONHAP)—Access to markets in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union is likely to improve soon as South Korea's largest business organization has paved the way with agreements, according to the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA).

KFTA agreed with the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry to expand business cooperation late last month, KFTA and its Hungarian counterpart have agreed to sign an agreement to step up interaction and it has promised to enhance relations with the chambers of commerce and industry and investment-trust corporations in Czechoslovakia, Poland and East Germany.

KFTA, a non-governmental organization with 24,377 private enterprises as members as of the end of September, will move its office in Duesseldorf to Berlin next year to use it as a channel for contacts and information for businesses in Korea and Eastern Europe. KFTA also has offices in Brussels, Washington, New York, Hong Kong and Tokyo.

The agreement between KFTA and the East-Bloc organizations was sought largely by them, a spokesman said, and those nations were more eager to expedite private-level cooperation. He said the nations had knocked on KFTA's door although they already have offices of the state-run Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (Kotra).

KFTA and the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry will jointly sponsor a seminar on doing business in the Soviet Union in Seoul in March. They have agreed to hold seminars on economic cooperation alternating between both countries.

Hungary, which established a Hungarian version of KFTA in June, will offer detailed information on Korean business' advancement into its market in return for KFTA's transfer of management skills. East Germany has informed KFTA of 8,100 firms that will be privatized in the next six months along with the estimated sales price, the spokesman said.

No, Greek Premier Discuss Bilateral Cooperation

SK1411083590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0751 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u and Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis discussed bilateral cooperation on

Wednesday afternoon. The Greek leader flew into Seoul earlier in the day for a two-day visit. They confirmed their positions welcoming the new order in Europe and expressed hope the Gulf crisis would be resolved as soon as possible in accordance with the U.N. Security Council resolution.

No asked the Greek premier for diplomatic cooperation in the international community and early conclusion of an aviation pact and an agreement on science and technology.

Earlier Wednesday, Mitsotakis, the first Greek prime minister to visit Korea since the nations established diplomatic ties in 1961, called on the Korean business community to invest in his nation, noting his government intends to privatize 100 firms.

The Greek prime minister made the call when he met with Kim Sung-yon, chairman of the Korea explosives group and Greece's honorary consul-general in Korea since 1984, over luncheon. Mitsotakis also asked for Kim's cooperation in sending a Korean investment mission to Greece.

Businessman, Greek Premier Meet on Economic Ties

SK1511074690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Nov 90 p 8

[Text] Kim Sung-yun, chairman of the Korea Explosives Group, discussed with Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis the promotion of economic cooperation between Korea and Greece on a private level over lunch at the group's headquarters yesterday.

Kim is concurrently honorary consul general of Greece in Seoul.

During the luncheon, the Greek prime minister said that his country would soon privatize some 100 state-run companies in order to renovate the economy. He called upon Korean business concerns to actively invest in his country. The state-run companies which Greece plans to privatize are in the fields of cement, transportation, tobacco, foodstuffs, shipbuilding and textiles.

Mitsotakis especially asked Kim to exert efforts to dispatch a private Korean investment mission to Greece. The luncheon was jointly by the 20 member retinue of the Greek Prime Minister. Among the guests were Greek Trade-Industry Minister S. Dimas and Korean Ambassador to Greece Pak Nam-kyun.

Choe Ho-chung Meets Visiting Nicaraguan Envoy

SK1211084390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0500 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung met with Nicaraguan presidential envoy Geraldo Montelegre [name as received] here Monday to discuss ways to promote bilateral cooperation, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The envoy said his country hoped that Korean firms would invest in Nicaragua and asked Korea to participate in a multinational conference to help Nicaragua, the spokesman said. Korea reopened diplomatic ties with Nicaragua Aug. 23.

Finance Ministry Announces New ATM Ruling

SK1111040190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 Nov 90 p 1

[Text] Korea has assured the United States it will let foreign banks operate automatic teller machines (ATM) and broader participation in the trust business here next year, the Ministry of Finance announced yesterday.

In the two-day financial policy talks which ended yesterday, Korea also told U.S. officials it will allow foreign banks to increase their capital.

Meanwhile, the U.S. delegation showed dissatisfaction with the results of the conference. They said that Korea may be sanctioned due to a lack of progress in talks over the financial market liberalization and fair treatment of foreign banks in Korea. They indicated that the sanction would include retaliatory steps against Korea.

The cash dispensers will be set up indoors and operate from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. on weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends and holidays, the same as local banks, the ministry said.

Foreign banks will be allowed to conduct specified trust business, a financial service in which it is possible for clients to specifically designate how deposits trusted to banks will be used,—namely, stocks and bonds. The trust business for foreign banks will also be expanded to real estate and other property.

Foreign banks will also be allowed to increase their capital if necessary from the current level of 8-12 billion U.S. dollars, per branch.

The Seoul-Washington financial policy talks were led by Yi Yong-song, assistant finance minister for planning and management; and Charles Dallara, U.S. assistant treasury secretary. No joint statement was issued by both sides after the close of the meeting.

The U.S. side called for equal treatment for foreign banks now operating in Korea and for foreign brokerage businesses, which are planned to start from next year. As to such American demands, Finance Ministry officials said that the government is extensively studying ways to give national treatment to foreign securities firms and the final decision will be made through consultations with all relevant organizations.

Korean officials also told their American counterparts that all kinds of liberalization programs for capital market and financial services will be pursued on a gradual basis in such a way as to meet the circumstances of the local markets.

As to the question of presenting a report on the national treatment status of American banks to the Congress, scheduled for Dec. 1, Korean delegates asked their American counterparts of further cooperate in making an exact report reflecting the privileges enjoyed by foreign banks in Korea.

On top of this, the U.S. side asked Seoul to stop the ongoing frugality campaign, charging that it smacks of an anti-import movement. Korean officials explained that the campaign has no effect on curbing imports and it is only a voluntary citizen drive to put the lid on rampant overconsumption.

The Korean side has also expressed serious fears over the way that the Uruguay Round negotiations for free service trade have progressed in the interests of industrially advanced countries.

It then promised American officials that Korea would gradually liberalize foreign exchange transactions, saying that the opening of the domestic capital market to direct foreign investment, scheduled for 1992, is part of the considerable progress in the government's efforts to liberalize foreign exchange dealing.

EPB Assesses Final Positions for Uruguay Round

SK1211085190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0521 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—There are disturbing signs that the Uruguay Round agricultural negotiations are finally on track to reach an agreement by the year-end target date, officials at the Economic Planning Board (EPB) said Monday.

The EPB is assessing its final position on South Korea's offer list and items set aside from import liberalization as non-trade concerns (NTCs) and is convinced that rice must be excluded from market opening, but it may yield on other NTCs since they arrive in limited amounts to meet shortages, the officials said. The NTC list submitted to the Uruguay Round includes beef, poultry and corn.

There were signs the 105-member Uruguay Round would be unable to meet its December deadline on an agreement that aims to lower trade barriers and give developing nations better international market access.

The European Community (EC), ignoring U.S. demands, decided last week to lower EC farm subsidies 30 percent. The United States and other exporting nations demanded that the EC cut subsidy rates 75 percent to 90 percent.

The officials predicted U.S. inability to entirely ignore the EC stand and still meet the negotiation deadline, and said that the general atmosphere at the multinational trade talks is for a compromise between the two parties.

All related government agencies are consequently reviewing their Uruguay Round policies, they said, adding Kim In-ho, chief of the Economic Planning Board's Office of External Economy Coordination, was dispatched to Geneva over the weekend to brief the Korean negotiating team on the home government's position and devise appropriate strategy for the negotiations.

Government Cautious Concerning Uruguay Round

SK1211025790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0154 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Excerpts] Seoul, Nov. 12 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea, expressing concern that the Uruguay Round financial sector talks are being controlled by industrialized nations, has told the United States it will decide whether to sign on after it sees the final agreement.

In the Korea-U.S. financial policy talks Nov. 9-10, Korea also asked that the United States mirror the opinions of developing countries in the Uruguay Round negotiations.

Seeking revisions to a report on the treatment of American financial institutions in Korea to be submitted to the U.S. Congress in December, the Koreans said the report was biased as it lists only examples of alleged discrimination against foreign banks. [passage omitted]

On trade, the U.S. side expressed concern that an "anti-consumption movement" organized allegedly by the government and private groups was curbing imports.

The Korean side said it would consider measures allowing foreign banks to expand their trust businesses, increase their capital and install automatic tellers next year. The Korean side promised to think over giving equal treatment to foreign securities firms while gradually hiking the level of liberalization in foreign exchange trade.

The two sides agreed to have a third round of talks next year.

Fisheries Administration Submits Tariff Offer

SK1011085090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0610 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea submitted its tariff offer on fisheries to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Geneva on Friday, conceding a 32.3 percent cut on 140 items but not on 188 others.

The Fisheries Administration said Saturday that the offer was its response to a GATT demand for a 33-percent cut from tariff levels in 1986 on all 328 fisheries items. Korea refused tariff cuts on Alaskan pollack, cuttlefish, mackerel and 185 other fish to protect the domestic industry, an administration official said.

General Trading Firms in 'Danger of Collapse'

SK1011062990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 Nov 90 p 8

[Text] The nation's eight general trading companies 00 Samsung, Hyundai, Daewoo, Lucky-Goldstar, Sunkyong, Hyosung, Ssangyong and Korea International Trading—are in danger of collapse as manufacturing firms are directly exporting their products.

Their exports have accounted for some 50 percent of the nation's annual shipments. They are exporting products on behalf of manufacturing companies.

But their role has been seriously diminished since the late 1980s due to the expansion of overseas sale networks by manufacturing industries. As all of them except for Korea International Trading are affiliated with business groups, they are in conflict with their sister manufacturing companies over their direct exports.

Samsung Electronics signed a contract with the Soviet Union last month to export $900 million worth of electrics and electronics. In the meantime, Goldstar inked an agreement with the Soviet Union last month to ship $800 million worth of electronics products.

As a result, they were embroiled in serious disputes with their sister general trading companies. Small and medium manufacturing companies are expanding their direct exports bypassing Korea International Trading which has arranged exports on behalf of them.

Business exports predicted that the role of the eight general trading companies would be further deteriorated in the days ahead as manufacturing industries are actively expanding their overseas sale networks. The eight general trading companies plan to export $27.343 million worth of products this year. The figure accounts for 42.7 percent of the government's revised export goal of $64 billion for the year. But their aggregate exports during the first nine months of the year reached only 60 percent of their goal.

EPB Views Government, Private Trade Practices

SK1411041490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0235 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 14 (YONHAP)—The government may categorize banking and insurance as "market-dominating" businesses in a bid to regulate unfair trading practices during the seventh socio-economic development plan (1992-96), the Economic Planning Board (EPB) said Tuesday.

The government will consider easing regulations on firms that pursue specialized lines of business and breaking up companies that monopolize a market segment for a long time. In a meeting Tuesday of "fair trade" experts from government and private business, the EPB said the domestic and international economic environment will change rapidly and in order to cope with change it is necessary for industry to become competent.

Policies to prevent the concentration of economic power should be pursued along with policies to improve the market structure and establish fair trade practices to cope with capital liberalization and market opening, the EPB said. The government will study adjusting its standards for listing an enterprise as a "large conglomerate." The current standard is 400 billion won (555.56 million U.S. dollars) in total assets.

To ease the concentration of economic power, the government will continue to pursue a policy of dispersing equity holdings, make efforts to ensure sound relations between contractors and subcontractors and control new types of unfair practices. It will rewrite laws and regulations to prevent the abuse, such as the improper exercise of intellectual property rights. The government will establish draft policy plans by the end of this year after consulting with private organizations and prepare a final version by next August for implementation from 1992.

Ministry Cites Low Technology Level in Industry

SK1011093090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0640 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—The level of technology in South Korean companies is 65-79 percent the level of their counterparts in the industrialized world, the Trade and Industry Ministry said on Saturday. Paying scant regard to research and development, Korean industry has relied on original equipment manufacturing [OEM], a system under which exporters attach foreign brands for mass output of a short product line, a ministry spokesman said. He said OEM-dependent firms are now faced with the dilemma of rising wages at home and falling orders abroad. Workers are leaving their jobs or refusing to work overtime while their concentration has dropped.

Worst hit are makers of televisions, videotape recorders or electric ranges because their OEM dependency is high, he said. Electric and electronic exporters rely 44.7 percent on the OEM method, compared with 37 percent for textile firms, 55.2 percent for machinery, 47.8 percent for daily necessities and 50.9 percent for plastics, rubber and leather.

Korean technology is 79 percent of industrialized technology in quality and performance, 73 percent in design and packaging, 76 percent in assembly and processing, and 65 percent in testing. Localization of parts stands at 72 percent.

Assembly Resumes Without Opposition Parties

SK1511080590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Nov 90 p 2

[Text] Ruling party lawmakers resumed parliamentary activities yesterday without opposition lawmakers, to act on the government budget bills and other measures.

Lawmakers of the main opposition Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] and the minor Democratic Party [DP] boycotted the National Assembly which reconvened at 2 p.m. The 70 PPD lawmakers may return to the Assembly possibly early next week.

President No Tae-u delivered a speech on the government's supplementary budget bill, scaled at 2,785.8 billion won. The speech was read by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun, concurrently minister of economic planning.

The supplementary budget bill features projects to restore the flood-stricken areas, offset a drop in revenue caused by the Persian Gulf crisis and instability in the domestic stock market and implement compensation for families of the victims of the Kwangju civil uprising in 1980.

The Assembly passed a bill to form an ad hoc budget committee.

Ruling party officials said the DLP cannot delay any longer parliamentary deliberations on the government's budget plan for fiscal 1991 and other pressing issues, especially those related to the people's livelihood.

The governing party with more than two-thirds of the 299 parliamentary seats has tentatively set a timetable for the remainder of the current regular Assembly session which opened Sept. 10 and ends Dec. 18.

The timetable includes an interpellation session Nov. 23, the parliamentary audit and inspection of administrative affairs Nov. 24-30 and meetings of the ad hoc budget panel and 16 standing committees Dec. 1-15.

It said the unicameral legislature will act on the 1991 budget bill and the appointment of a new chief justice to succeed Yi Ik-kyu who retires Dec. 15 in a plenary sitting Dec. 17-18.

Five standing committees will hold sessions today and tomorrow to deliberate the supplementary budget proposal. They are Home Affairs, Finance, National Defense, Construction and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries committees.

The ruling party plans to unilaterally act on the supplementary budget bill Saturday, if the PPD continues its boycott of parliamentary activities, party officials said.

Kim Yun-hwan, floor leader of the ruling DLP, told reporters yesterday that the timetable could be changed if opposition lawmakers return to work.

The 70 PPD lawmakers have been boycotting parliament along with eight other opposition legislators since July when the ruling party railroaded several controversial bills through the Assembly.

Meanwhile, the opposition PPD yesterday decided to refer to its floor leader Kim Yong-pae a decision concerning whether the party lawmakers should come back to the Assembly.

The decision came in a meeting of 12 advisers to the party. PPD President Kim Tae-chung presided over the meeting.

Floor leaders of the ruling and opposition parties continued behind-the-scenes negotiations on the thorny issue of local elections yesterday.

The PPD demands that parties be allowed to put up candidates in local elections regardless of the size of constituency, while the ruling party asks that party nomination be allowed only in larger districts such as provinces and big cities.

PPD floor leader Kim Yong-pae said that whether his party lawmakers will end a boycott of parliament depends on the outcome of interparty negotiations on the local autonomy question.

The two parties earlier agreed to implement local autonomy early next year.

Home Minister Reports on Crime 'Crackdown'

SK1511080490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Home Minister An Ung-mo said yesterday police have distributed information books containing a total of 2,266 people on the wanted list to administrative offices throughout the country as part of its "80-day crackdown operation on criminals."

He said an average of 1,252 hooligans, thieves and robbers have been arrested daily since President No Tae-u declared war on crime on Oct. 13.

In his report to President No Tae-u on the ministry's execution of No's anti-crime declaration at Chongwadae [presidential residence], An said police seek the automation of fingerprint reading of repeat offenders by recording fingerprint images into computer. For this, he said, the ministry has set aside a total of 30.7 billion won from next year's budget.

He said police will soon form special task forces, each comprising some 20 senior officers, which will exclusively deal with criminal incidents involving more than two cities or provinces.

An said police will exert efforts to crack down on various kinds of crimes in cooperation with other law-enforcement authorities.

Police Against Rallies Marking Activist's Death

SK1011062390 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] The nation's law-enforcement authorities have been put on alert with a series of radical challenges by student and worker activists who plan to hold massive rallies on Nov. 11 marking the 20th anniversary of death of Chon Tae-il. Chon, a textile company laborer, burnt himself to death in 1970 in protest against the government crackdown on the free labor union movement.

Prosecutor General Kim Ki-chun ordered the prosecution's security division chiefs yesterday to take a tough stance on activists sympathetic to North Korea's unification policy and on labor agitators.

Touching on the scheduled Sunday rally at Hanyang University, Kim instructed them to be on 24 hour alert.

The directives were issued as more than 800 hard-line labor activists released from prison last month are feared to start a wave of labor-disputes while preparing to gather for the Sunday rally.

"To prevent communist ideology from making deep inroads into South Korean society," Kim said, "the law-enforcement authorities must take preemptive action to deter any attempt to cause an ideological split among the people."

He also urged prosecutors to sternly deal with "social risks" who illegally occupy production facilities during labor disputes and throw firebombs and stones in clashes with riot police.

Those who blindly follow North Korean leader Kim Il-song's "Chuche Thought" and positively sympathize with Pyongyang's unification policy are the main target of the crackdown, help accelerate the development of the island community.

Police, Union Members Clash at Banned Rally

SK1211015690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0133 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—Sporadic clashes broke out between police and more than 7,000 union members during a banned rally to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the death of labor martyr in Seoul on Sunday.

Police rounded up 165 people as the ralliers, armed with firebombs, tried to march along city streets after the rally on downtown Korea university campus.

Hundreds of students and labor activists protested near Yonsei University in the afternoon, but were dispersed by police in 30 minutes.

Police had sealed off Chamshil Olympic Stadium, which was the scheduled site for the rally organized by Chonnohyop, a nationwide group of dissident unions, to denounce government suppression.

The martyr was Chon Tae-il, a labor activist who died by self-immolation.

Chonnohyop said in a statement it vowed to stay on the front line in the battle against government oppression of korea's 10 million laborers.

"We have the responsibility to push forward our movement, and we will stand up for the protection and rights of our laborers," the statement said.

Riot police responded fiercely when the protesters tried to march off the campus, answering their rocks and firebombs with tear gas. Police later entered the campus to break up the protest and confiscated 15 boxes or firebombs.

Police also fought protesters near Yonsei, where some 500 students and labor activists blocked from joining the rally threw rocks and firebombs.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Singapore

Parliament Passes Religious Harmony Bill

BK1311045290 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Nov 90 p 1

[By Zuraidah Ibrahim]

[Text] Parliament passed the Religious Harmony Bill yesterday after MPs congratulated the Select Committee which made several changes to improve the landmark legislation. The Committee proposed 18 amendments to the Bill, which aims to prevent inter-religious conflict and keep religions and politics separate.

Among other things, it allows for religious leaders whose words or actions threaten religious harmony to be ordered to stop preaching. Those who persist will face fines or jail terms, or both.

Feedback Unit chief S. Chandra Das (Cheng San GRC [Group Representatives Committee]) said that the Committee's "substantive recommendations" should serve to debunk the sceptics' view that select committees made only cosmetic changes to proposed laws. He hoped it would encourage more Singaporeans to give their views to other select committees set up in future.

The Religious Harmony Bill was one of four bills passed by Parliament yesterday.

MPs welcomed the Town Councils (Amendment) Bill, which will give town councils the power to draw up and enforce by-laws which will apply to residents and non-residents alike. Among other things, they will be able to deal more effectively with late payment of service and conservancy charges and illegal parking. Five MPs, including opposition MP Chiam See Tong (Potong Pasir), welcomed the changes before the House passed the Bill.

MPs also approved the upgrading of the Science Council into a statutory board, the National Science and Technology Board, which is set to play a key role in coordinating research and development efforts here.

The Income Tax (Amendment No 2) Bill, which gives effect to various measures announced earlier, was also passed.

Moving the third reading of the Religiouis Harmony Bill, Law and Home Affairs Minister S. Jayakumar pointed out that the Select Committee's amendments:

—Addressed concerns that too much power would be given to the minister by giving the proposed Elected President a safeguard role;
—Reduced the element of subjectivity in the language of part of the Bill;
—Improved on procedures that would apply before and after a restraining order was made;
—Incorporated various suggestions concerning the composition and workings of the Presidential Council of Religious Harmony.

Prof Jayakumar stressed that the aim of the Bill was preventive, to nip in the bud problems that were often caused only by a few irresponsible individuals. "These few people msut not be allowed to endanger the precious racial and religious harmony that we have," he said.

Describing the Bill as a "preventive mechanism", he said: "The best case scenario is that there may not be any need to invoke its provisions." But if one day, someone threatened religious harmony by his reckless conduct, the Bill would ensure he would not succeed.

In the brief debate that followed, Dr. Ong Chit Chung (Bukit Batok) suggested that retired high court judges should sit on the presidential council to ensure legal input and to meet in part the demand that cases be subjected to judicial review.

Non-Constituency MP Lee Siew Choh argued that the Elected President could hardly act as an unbiased check against the minister and Cabinet if he had political links with the ruling party. He preferred that the Presidential Council for Religious Harmony be the final arbiter. But Prof Jayakumar rejected that, saying that ultimately, the responsibility and accountability had to rest with the Executive, not a council of 15 individuals.

International Meeting on Drug Abuse Opened

BK1211115590 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] The minister for law and home affairs, Professor Jayakumar, says people in many countries want a stronger anti-drug [words indistinct]. Opening an international conference of non-government organizations involved in preventing drug [words indistinct] abuse, he said firm laws, enforcement, and rehabilitation are needed. [Passage indistinct], and non-government and volunteer organizations should play a crucial role together with the government.

The Malaysian deputy home affairs minister, Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob, was among the senior speakers at the conference. He said better results (?would be achieved in) fighting drug abuse (?if) non-governmental organizations joined forces with the government and its agencies. The National Association for the Prevention of Drug Abuse in Malaysia has made a great stride since its inception in 1976. Some 400 delegates from 22 countries, including the United States, Canada, Burma, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines are attending the conference.

Cambodia

Chea Sim Receives Thai Religious Delegation

BK1211085790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD] National Council, cordially received at the KUFNCD National Council office in the afternoon of 9 November the visiting religious delegation of the Thai Kingdom led by Brahmin Charun Nunsunanon, representative of the Heaven on Earth organization.

During the meeting, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim warmly welcomed the visit of the delegation and considered it an important visit that would help bring the religious circles of both countries closer to each other. He went on to say that over the past 20 years, whatever the people had built was destroyed and damaged by war, especially by the genocidal Pol Pot regime. During this same period, our cultural and religious domains have been dearly preserved, however.

Comrade Chea Sim stressed that the government and people of Cambodia have always wanted genuine peace and the end of war to jointly bring prosperity and glory back to the motherland of Angkor.

In his speech, Brahmin Charun Nunsunanon said he knew very well the plight of the Cambodian people and the real situation in Cambodia after his visit to this country. He also stated that he wanted the world to know the truth about Cambodia because the Cambodians are peaceful, kind-hearted people who hate war and cherish genuine peace. He also informed Comrade Chea Sim that the Heaven on Earth organization wishes to open an agricultural school in Cambodia to provide vocational training for a small number of needy Cambodians for the sake of the economic development and improvement in the living conditions of the Cambodian people.

Official Meets Former SRV Volunteer Troops

BK1211131190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Comrade Sar Kheng, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, chief of the party Central Committee Cabinet, and chairman of the Central Organization Commission, received at the party Central Committee Cabinet in the afternoon of 11 November the visiting delegation of former Vietnamese volunteer troops headed by Comrade Than Van Hao.

Comrade Sar Kheng warmly welcomed the visit of the delegation, which came to assess the development of the State of Cambodia over the past 12 years. Comrade Sar Kheng informed the delegation of the perfidious maneuvers of the enemies and clearly stressed the stance of the party and government of the State of Cambodia in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. He also expressed admiration for and gratitude to the Vietnamese volunteer cadres and combatants who fought shoulder to shoulder with the Cambodian people to drive out the French colonialists, U.S. imperialists, and Pol Pot butchers. He stressed that it was thanks to the great sacrifices of the Vietnamese volunteer comrades-in-arms that Cambodia and the Cambodian people could survive up to the present. He expressed best wishes to the former Vietnamese volunteer troops and their families for their good deeds toward the Cambodian people and, through them, he extended greetings and best wishes to the fraternal Vietnamese party, government, and people.

In his reply, Comrade Than Van Hao stressed: Our delegation is extremely pleased to see the rebirth of the Cambodian people and land over the past 12 years. We treasure in our hearts the image of the growth and sturdiness of the State of Cambodia. It is our firm belief that the Cambodian people's struggle will always win more successes.

Mat Ly Meets Cambodian Muslim Representative

BK1311092390 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0446 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Summary] Phnom Penh, 13 November (SPK)—Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Cambodian State's National Assembly, received on 10 November Mrs. M. Maria, representative of Cambodia Trust organization, who was visiting Cambodia.

On the occasion, Mat Ly briefed his guest on the development of the situation in Cambodia, the perfidious maneuvers of the Cambodian opposition, and the State of Cambodia's goodwill to bring an end to the war in the country. He called on Cambodian Muslims overseas to assist in the reconstruction of Cambodia.

Mrs. M. Maria thanked the Cambodian Government for assisting the Cambodian Muslims abroad in their fact-finding visit to Cambodia. She thanked the government in particular for its efforts in developing the country.

Heng Samrin Receives Message From Mongolia

BK1211120990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Comrade Heng Samrin, chairman of the Council of State of the State of Cambodia, recently received a message of thanks from His Excellency Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, president of the People's Republic of Mongolia. The message stresses:

I deeply thank you for your sincere and warm congratulations on my election as president of the Mongolian People's Republic. Like you, I also firmly believe that the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Mongolia and the State of Cambodia will steadily develop in the interests of our two peoples and for peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

I take this opportunity to wish you and the Cambodian people more and greater successes in the noble task of seeking a national political solution.

Heng Samrin Troops Detain British Reporter

BK1211012290 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Nov 90 p A3

[Text] Aranyaprathet—A British freelance reporter was detained briefly by Heng Samrin troops on Saturday while taking photographs at a black market in the Cambodian border town of Poi Pet.

David Fang, 33, and Nopphakun Hunphayung, 17 a waiter of Inter Hotel in Aranyaprathet were arrested after crossing the border to Khok Sabaeng, a black market located on Thai-Cambodian border 20 kms south of Aranyaprathet.

After Thai soldiers knew about their arrest, they sent a representative to the Cambodian side asking the Heng Samrin troops to release the two. The waiter was released Saturday evening, while Fang was freed yesterday morning. Fang said he was arrested while he was taking pictures of the black market. He said the Heng Samrin troops mistook him as a spy.

Party Journal Urges Readiness for Dry Season

BK1211102990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 11 Nov 90

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Raise the Sense of Mastery and Self-Reliance in National Defense and the Sense of Responsibility for the Destiny of the Motherland"]

[Text] During the coming dry season, our struggle will remain most arduous, complex, and resolute.

Without any change, the Pol Pot-Sihanouk-Son Sann clique continues to nurture the ambition of attacking and toppling us. They are creating many obstacles to the process of a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem. Particularly, they are combining frontal military attacks with the use of espionage and subversive activities and pacification changes as attacks against us from the rear. They are sending forces and ammunition into the country to accelerate adventurous military activities to grab territory and win over the population to seize the upper hand on the military front for use as a bargaining point at the negotiating table. They have been infiltrating forces into localities, hiding them among the local people, escalating psychological warfare and subversive espionage activities to undermine our inner circles, and recruiting forces on the spot in an attempt to establish support bases to serve their own immediate and long-term activities. At the same time, they have been preparing both political and diplomatic conditions and other means pending a political solution.

In the face of such a situation, we must develop the experiences gained in the struggle on the battlefield and the tests of forces made over the past more than one year since the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia. Under the enlightened leadership of the party, we have been able to take care of the military and security situation, winning the trust and confidence of the people in our own strength and exposing the limited capacity of the enemy as far as their material forces and fighting spirit are concerned.

The people have seen even more clearly and have become even more incensed by the savageries and barbarisms of the three reactionary Khmer groups and their stubborn nature in attempting to protract the war and prolong the sufferings of the Cambodian people.

On our side, our forces have been thoroughly tested and developed in all fields—quality, politics, fighting capability, and command and leadership—becoming the core for the movement of the entire people in attacking the enemy, further building up strength, and promoting local mass movements for constant development. Our forces in front-line provinces have been fighting resolutely and making all kinds of sacrifices to maintain stability for rear-line provinces and cities to engage in construction tasks and become strong support bases in terms of manpower and materials in service of the front, thus jointly shouldering the national defense task, the common duty of the entire party, Armed Forces, and people.

This has shown to world public opinion that although the State of Cambodia has to confront and experience many difficulties, it continues to be the concrete force that has all levels of administrative structures to run the country, a force that no adverse forces can topple. Moreover, the State of Cambodia is the sole force determined to prevent and capable of preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. As the line of our party becomes more appropriate and an increasing number of countries are establishing direct relations with us, the position of the State of Cambodia is being brought to new heights in the international arena.

To further develop our position of victory, we must continue to implement actively the slogan put forth by the 10th and 11th plenary sessions of the party Central Committee: "Everything in service of the battlefield." We must mobilize all the possibilities of the integrated forces and integrated means to counterattack the enemy and resolutely defend the main areas of our territory. We must firmly strengthen localities to prevent enemy infiltration; pay attention to building forces, increasing the control of and harnessing the forces and effectively enhancing the spirit of thrift practice; firmly grasp the party concept of consolidating party leadership in all political undertakings of the units; promote the emulation movement to increase feats of arms and build all-around strong units; focus on strengthening the discipline and order of the army and consolidating and developing the character and tradition of a people's

Armed Forces; create constantly good relations between the Army and the authorities and people; always maintain a high sense of vigilance; express goodwill and sincerity in defending at all costs the people's interests; and hold aloft the sense of mastery and self-reliance in defending our beautiful motherland of Angkor under all circumstances.

KPNLF To Expand Liberated Zone Along Border

BK1211122890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1151 GMT 12 Nov 90

[By Charles-Antoine de Nerciat]

[Text] Bangkok, Nov 12 (AFP)—A top Cambodian guerrilla commander has pledged to expand and develop the area he controls along northwestern Cambodia's border with Thailand. General Sak Sutsakhan said in an interview here over the weekend that his U.S.-backed, non-communist guerrillas would continue to fight Phnom Penh until Cambodia's 12-year war ends with the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping force and UN administrators. He said his faction would at the same time construct roads, schools and hospitals in the 2,500 square kilometer (1,000 square mile) area, which is home to 65,000 people.

Gen. Sak hinted that the development was at least partly intended to turn his "liberated zone" into a magnet to attract Cambodian refugees back from Thai border camps, and civilians from government-controlled zones inside Cambodia. He called his course "our civic civilian action" to "protect our population ... and allow people at a later stage to help rebuild our country."

The 62-year-old general leads the military wing of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), which is headed by Cambodia's former conservative Prime Minister Son Sann. He has been feuding bitterly with Mr. Son Sann for years and has charged the former politician with autocratic rule and ineptitude in military matters.

In the weekend interview, Gen. Sak produced statements by guerrilla commanders and other supporters that blamed the KPNLF leader for not giving him a seat on the Supreme National Council (SNC), a joint interim authority set up by Cambodia's warring factions.

The KPNLF is one of two non-communist groups in a guerrilla coalition dominated by the powerful Khmer Rouge, Cambodia's former Marxist ruling group that has become the military muscle of the alliance fighting to topple Phnom Penh's Vietnam-installed government. The Khmer Rouge receives massive support from China. The KPNLF and the other non-communist faction, led by former Cambodian monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk, also receive smaller amounts of military supplies from Beijing. But the bulk of the aid for the KPNLF and Prince Sihanouk comes from the United States. The assistance is officially restricted to non-lethal supplies, although there have been persistent reports that Washington also provides the guerrillas with covert military aid.

Gen. Sak, who served as the last commander-in-chief of the forces of a U.S.-backed government that was defeated in 1975 by the Khmer Rouge, complained that the non-communists were the only factions involved in the Cambodian war to be "poorly armed and badly equipped." "As a result, the two communist monsters are going to fight it out (for leadership in Cambodia) unless a settlement is achieved immediately," he said.

The Khmer Rouge, whose brutal rule led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands in Cambodia's killing fields, was driven from power in January 1979 when Vietnam invaded Cambodia to install a client government, which is also communist but less radical. "There is a lot of talk about self-restraint, but there is no restraint at all from anybody in the field," Gen. Sak said, referring to calls for a halt in fighting to lead up to a cease-fire provided by a UN-brokered peace accord.

The guerrilla chief expressed full support for the UN blueprint put together by the permanent members of the world organization's Security Council—Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States. The factions accepted the UN plan earlier this year and formed the SNC. But they have since bickered over having Prince Sihanouk, who is not an SNC member, as the body's chairman.

Gen. Sak said people from "all over" government-controlled parts of Cambodia were constantly arriving at his "liberated zone" across from the Thai border town of Aranyaprathet. It is "certain that we enjoy the trust of the majority of Cambodia's population," he said.

Diplomats said U.S. funds were building a road from the Thai-Cambodian border to guerrilla-held strongholds in northwestern Cambodia. Gen. Sak called the road part of his "pacification program," but refused to give details.

He confirmed reports here that a hospital was being completed just inside Cambodia, across the border from the sprawling Site-2 refugee camp that houses 174,000 under KPNLF administration. He said the hospital, reportedly also built with U.S. funds, would have about 300 beds, making it a large medical facility by Thai standards.

Gen. Sak dismissed concerns that such programs would lead Cambodia into a Lebanon-type situation, with factions fighting endlessly for the control of zones whether a peace agreement were concluded or not. "I don't think this is going to be so. The five (UN Security Council) powers are not going to allow that," he said. "There will eventually be an international guarantee for the preservation of the unity of Cambodia."

Laos

Phoun Sipaseut's Departure for Japan Reported

BK1011105390 Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 10 (KPL)—Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, foreign minister of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic], today afternoon left here for Japan, to attend a ceremony of coronation of new emperor of Japan, Crown Prince Akihito. The ceremony will be held in Tokyo on November 12.

Seeing him off at the airport were Sali Vongkhamsao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of economy, planning and finance, Maisouk Saisompheng, minister and chief of the Council of Ministers' cabinet and some senior Lao officials.

Meets With Nakayama

BK1311124390 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 13 (KPL)—In their meeting on November 11 in Tokyo, Lao Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut and Japanese Foreign Minister Nakayama were of the view that Lao-Japanese relations have increasingly developed.

The Japanese foreign minister said his government continues supporting Laos' open-door policy aimed at turning its subsistent economy into a market economy.

He also reaffirmed the continued realization of what was agreed upon on his August visit to Laos, in particular bilateral economic and cultural cooperation.

On the Cambodian issue, the sides viewed that it was close to a solution. They also discussed cooperation between countries in the Asia-Pacific region themselves.

Lao Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut went there to attend the ceremony of coronation of Japan's Emperor Akihito.

Vientiane Reception Marks Japanese Enthronement

BK1311125590 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 13 (KPL)—The ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Japan to Laos Mr. Shigemi Ando and his wife hosted here last night a reception on the occasion of the coronation of the Emperor Akihito of Japan.

Taking part in the reception were Mr. Sali Vongkhamsao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of economy, planning and finance, ministers and deputy ministers, and senior Lao officials. Diplomatic corps and representatives of the international organizations in Laos were also present.

The coronation of the Emperor Akihito took place in Japan yesterday and heads of states and high-ranking officials from over 100 countries took part in the ceremony.

The Lao delegation to the ceremony was led by Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs.

Vientiane Rally Marks October Revolution

BK1011151590

[Editorial Report] Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao at 1200 GMT on 7 November carries a 19-minute report, with portions recorded, on a "grand rally" organized in Vientiane on the morning of 7 November by the Foreign Relations Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, in collaboration with the Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Lao-Soviet Friendship Association, to mark the 73d anniversary of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR]. The ceremony, the announcer says, was attended by "more than 800 people from various ministries and units in Vientiane Municipality."

At the rally, Bouathong, member of the LPRP Central Committee and minister of communications, transport, posts, and construction, as chairman of the Lao-Soviet Friendship Association, delivered a speech. In his 10-minute recorded speech, Bouathong expressed "sincere greetings and best wishes" to the party, government, and "fraternal" people of the Soviet Union as well as to "all Soviet comrades" now working in Laos, on behalf of the party, government, and multiethnic people of Laos. He then gave a brief history of the GOSR, calling it an "event of historical significance of mankind" and saying "the GOSR victory ushered in a new era in the history of the world—an era of transition from capitalism to socialism and an era of the national liberation revolution and the collapse of the colonialist system of the imperialists." Bouathong reviewed the trials and achievements experienced or scored by the Soviet people during the past 73 years of this historical process. He described the Soviet Union as the "firm basis for the movements of struggle of various oppressed and exploited nations throughout the world." He also hailed the 28th congress of the CPSU and called it a "turning point of new development of the Soviet society."

Bouathong stressed the Lao people's "full support for the foreign policy of peace and various peace initiatives advanced by the Soviet Union in previous years." He noted the Lao people's determination to do their best to contribute to the common cause of struggle for peace, friendship, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world. Noting the influences of the GOSR, Bouathong said: "It is certain that the 2 December National Day of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] has undeniably resulted from the GOSR in Russia. With the beacon of the GOSR movement, the LPRP, pursuing the cause of the Indochinese Communist Party with President Ho Chi Minh as founder, has ushered forward the nation's path of advancement and led the Lao people to rise up and fight against the colonialist intervention and aggression for peace, national independence, prosperity, and happiness of the entire Lao people. The GOSR is, therefore, considered a very significant day for the Lao nation—a nation that was under the dominating yoke of the imperialists for generations and has now become a completely peaceful, independent, and sovereign country."

Bouathong then hailed the support and assistance consistently given to the Lao people by the Soviet party, government, and people in the cause of defending, building, and developing the country. He said: "Since 1975, the value of Soviet assistance to Laos has covered more than half of the entire international assistance. Most of the Soviet assistance has been rendered to Laos in the form of building main projects which have vigorously boosted Lao economic foundations. The projects have included the building of bridges, factories or plants, hospitals, schools, agricultural cooperatives, oil pipelines, airfields, radio systems, space communications stations, and the supplying of consumer goods, transportation tools, construction materials, and fuel and oil. In addition, the Soviet Union has sent technical cadres to Laos to help build and train thousands of technical cadres of various branches.

At present, more than 6,000 Lao students are studying in the Soviet Union, and some 3,000 Lao students, who have graduated from the Soviet Union, are now working in different branches in Laos and actively putting what they have learned into actual practice to contribute to building and developing their country. Following the precious assistance over the past 15 years, our national economic foundation has been increasingly strengthened, while new steps of development, in terms of quality, have been achieved in the educational, public health, cultural, and social fields."

In conclusion, on behalf of the party, government, and people of Laos, Bouathong expressed "profound gratitude" to the CPSU, the government, and people of the Soviet Union for their "great and comprehensive support and assistance" to the revolutionary cause of Laos. He also hailed the "close relations" with the Soviet Union and expressed a conviction that the "profound relations of friendship and solidarity between Laos and the Soviet Union will last forever". He added that the Lao people will "forever adhere to the path of GOSR" and pledged that they will do their best to contribute to safeguarding peace in Southeast Asia and the world.

Bouathong's speech was followed by a speech of Yuriy Mikheyev, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union to the LPDR. In his seven-minute speech, the Soviet ambassador first described the significance of the GOSR and pointed to its impacts on the political life of the Soviet Union. He noted that "the GOSR line of thinking has served millions of people in the world in the interests of peace, progress, and humanitarianism." He then gave details on the changes in various fields effected in the country following the implementation of perestroyka.

On relations with Laos, Ambassador Yuriy Mikheyev said: "The Soviet Union and Laos have established an integrated system of relations, which include relations between the states and between the parties. Cooperation in the foreign policy, economic, scientific, and cultural fields; the building of cadres; and the regular meetings and talks between Mikhail Gorbachev, president of the Soviet Union and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the LPDR, have significantly resulted in strengthening, promoting, and expanding Soviet-Lao relations. The Soviet Union has consistently supported the policies of Laos as well as of other Indochinese countries on the political settlement of various problems and conflicts, the establishment of cooperation on the basis of equality of all countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and on the turning of Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, neighborliness, and cooperation. One among the many significant issues at present is the consolidation of the Soviet-Lao economic cooperation mechanism and the enhancement of its efficiency." He noted in this regard that perestroyka has brought about good results in the development of the relations and contacts between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Laos.

In conclusion, the ambassador hailed the roles and activities of mass organizations of the two countries, such as the trade, youth, and women unions and the Soviet-Lao and the Lao-Soviet friendship associations, in improving, promoting, and expanding friendly relations between the parties, the states, and the peoples of the two countries.

The rally, the radio announcer reports, proceeded amid a joyous, enthusiastic atmosphere of friendship.

Deputy Foreign Minister Views Jakarta Meeting

BK1311133990 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] The working group meeting of the Paris Conference was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 9 and 10 November. The meeting was cochaired by Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and a representative of the French foreign minister. Attending the meeting were representatives of the five permanent member countries of the UN Security Council, Indonesia, the UN secretary general, and the cochairmen of the three subcommittees of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia—Canada, India, Australia, Japan, Malaysia, and Laos. Participants exchanged views and discussed various issues related to the Cambodian problem as submitted by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to help the two cochairmen—France and Indonesia—to prepare working papers on the settlement of the Cambodian problem. The papers will be submitted to the meeting of the coordinating committee scheduled for early 1991 in Paris.

After returning from the meeting, Lao Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Phasitthidet, told reporters at Wattai Airport in Vientiane capital this afternoon about the Lao Government's stand on the Cambodian problem, which emphasizes the following basic issues: Cambodia's sovereignty must be truly and fully respected. The power and duties of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia and the UN forces to be operating in Cambodia must be defined and balanced. A cease-fire must be quickly implemented. Armed forces must be divided into small groups under the inspection of the UN forces. Efforts must be made to prevent the return of the genocidal regime in Cambodia. The last point is that the transitional period of the settlement of the Cambodian problem must be expeditiously set.

The deputy foreign minister stressed that the Lao delegation had also circulated at the meeting a memorandum reviewing the opinions of the three Indochinese countries. Delegations to the meeting aired different views concerning the major contents of the working papers and agreed that each will draft its own view in black and white to present to the cochairmen to prepare a new draft based on the documents provided by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. For example, [words indistinct] clearly specifies each topic in detail on the process of settling the Cambodian problem.

PASASON Notes Problems With 'Bad Elements'

BK0911103190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 8 Nov 90

[PASASON article: "Satisfactory Relations, but Efforts Must Be Made To Jointly Resolve Remaining Problems"; date not given]

[Text] Along with the elation over and satisfaction with some positive events and developments occurring in the past few years in Lao-Thai relations, which have been strengthened in various aspects—economic, trade, cultural, artistic, literary, and technical fields—as has been constantly displayed through frequent visits between the peoples on both sides of the border, the Lao and Thai peoples are still concerned with the activities carried out by a number of bad elements. These have been supported and instigated by the imperialists and exiled Lao reactionaries. These bad elements have carried out attempts to undermine, sabotage, and obstruct the longstanding fine relations and cooperation between the Lao and Thai peoples. They have frequently caused losses to the lives and property of our people. Both Lao and Thai peoples, especially those living along the Lao-Thai border, are fully aware of the sinister scheme and true nature of the exiled Lao reactionaries who are nothing but notorious bandits who have been mercilessly pillaging our people. The activities of these elements have caused great concern among the Lao and Thai peoples at the moment.

Nonetheless, the subversive activities of these bad elements have been quashed to a certain extent and have been increasingly exposed by the Lao and Thai peoples. The Armed Forces of the two countries must continue to resolve jointly such problems through peaceful means in accordance with the spirit of the joint statement signed by the heads of the military delegations of the two countries during a friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand from 15-18 August 1990. The two sides recommended the two governments resolve all remaining problems, such as the joint implementation of various suppression measures to disarm the exiled Lao reactionaries, the launching of suppression drives against saboteurs operating along the border areas of the two countries, and the peaceful solution of the remaining border problems in accordance with international principles and practices and on the basis of goodneighborliness. If all of these objectives are fulfilled, peace and happiness will prevail and both the Lao and Thai peoples will be able to carry out peacefully their livelihood. As a result, the existing bilateral cooperation will be further developed for the better in accordance with the spirit of the Lao-Thai joint communique signed by the governments of the two countries.

Philippines

Ramos: No Link Between Bases Talks, Kidnapping

HK1211105990 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said there is no connection between the recently concluded RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases negotiations and the kidnapping of an American missionary by communist rebels in Cagayan. Here is Josette Olivera with the details:

[Begin recording] [Olivera] Ramos said that as of now, he has not received any clear report regarding the military's operation for a peaceful rescue of Harvey Brown Duane. Ramos explained the military has not ascertained the whereabouts of the victim, although they continue to observe standard operating procedures in the hostage and kidnapping incident. Ramos stressed the military should carry out a negotiation with the help of local officials and the religious sector there.

[Ramos in English] The situation there is not truly clarified because it may not be a situation similar to the one that happened in Negros. So, we are still awaiting the detailed reports of Brigadier Soriano or Fontanilla on this matter. But certainly as far as we can determine it has no connection with the second round of exploratory talks that just finished. [end recording]

Defense Concern Raised in U.S. Fighter Pullout

HK1311033190 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 13 Nov 90 p 10

[By reporter Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] The U.S. decision to remove its fighter aircraft from Clark Air Base by September 1991 is bringing concerns about the country's lack of defense capabilities to the fore.

At the Manila Hotel's Kapihan [Coffee] Forum yesterday, various politicians indicated fears that the country's negotiators may be pushing for U.S. forces reduction at a time when the country is ill-prepared to undertake its own military buildup.

"The replacement of the U.S. capability is something that should occupy Philippine policy makers," opposition politico Blas Ople stressed. He believed this area was not being properly addressed.

"Our fishermen complain that Japanese, Taiwanese and Korean fishermen are poaching in our internal waters ... and our Coast Guard is incapable of preventing this encroachment," Mr Ople said.

"In the case of the 49 fishermen captured by Malaysia, ... they were fishing in our waters when they were seized by a foreign navy ... and President Aquino had to adopt the position of a supplicant to (Malaysian Premier Mohamed) Mahathir by telephone," Mr Ople recalled, observing that "we have the weakest air and naval capability in the region."

The recent round of Philippine-American Cooperation Talks, Olongapo mayor Richard Gordon remarked, brings to "mind that we are doing more posturing than following through on our national interest. We have a Coast Guard which is all coast and no guard, and an Air Force which is all air and no force," he remarked.

Recounting the inability of our Coast Guard to come to the rescue of two capsized vessels even after two days, the Olongapo mayor said he found it "extremely embarrassing to be reliant on somebody else to help out your own people." The U.S. Navy had to be asked to send a vessel to rescue the drifting fishermen. Mr Gordon complained there was "no clear definition of what constitutes our national interest."

U.S. Embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager, who said "the outline of an agreement is taking shape," pointed out that "principles and pragmatism" must be considered in talking about national interests.

Defining exactly that has been complicated, Legislative-Executive Bases Committee chairman Dr. Jose Abueva indicated, by "our leaders and our people being divided on the issue of an outright U.S. withdrawal from the bases or a phaseout. We're looking for a political formula which would satisfy both sides of our polarized nation," Dr. Abueva said.

His remarks reveal the rifts and indecision which characterize the Philippines' position on the bases. Recently, Philippine panel vice-chairman Alfredo Bengzon said pressure was being exerted by "the country's economic managers" and the "military" towards retaining the U.S. presence after the current agreement expires next September.

Maximize Capabilities

With the seeming acquiescence of the Philippine panel towards allowing the U.S. military some degree of operational control in the facilities, Mr. Schrager said under a new agreement, the U.S. was willing "to work with the Philippine military to maximize their capabilities during the transition period (to full control by the Philippines) ..., and joint-use is a step in this direction."

Under a joint-use arrangement, the Philippines would avail of technology and expertise transfers by training side by side with U.S. forces. As for the upgrading of military equipment, "that would be part of it, I'm sure," Mr Schrager said.

Mr Ople believed the U.S. "has the moral obligation to help the Philippines establish a respectable air and naval capability ... so we are not left naked ... to future predators in this part of the world."

Aside from security concerns, the recent earthquakes and the economic recession looming as a result of the Gulf crisis was forcing "a more sober reappraisal" of the bases issue among her colleagues, Senate foreign relations committee chairperson Leticia Shahani remarked.

She said she was "surprised at the speed at which ... the talks are moving" but expressed difficulty with Philippine panel spokesman Rafael Alunan's definition of the concepts of sovereign and operational control. "I don't think you can divide the two," she said.

Aquino Welcomes U.S-Singapore Military Pact

HK1411133390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] President Aquino told U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle that the Philippines welcomes the agreement between the U.S. and Singapore on the accommodation of the former's battleships in the Asian region. The President met with Dan Quayle in Tokyo yesterday afternoon; with Quayle at the meeting were U.S. Ambassador Armacoste, Chief of Staff to the Vice President (William Kristolf), and Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Mr. Richard Solomon. Quayle expressed the hope for an agreement on the military bases issue in January.

Officials Welcome U.S.-Singapore Base Pact

HK1411031990 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 14 Nov 90 p 12

[By reporter Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] The agreement concluded yesterday which allows the increased access of U.S. air and naval forces to Singapore's military facilities was "welcomed" by Foreign Affairs officials here as a tangible move towards burden sharing.

"Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus has been saying that if the U.S. present in this area is for security of the region, then the political burden of hosting that presence must be shared by the countries of the region," DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] Undersecretary Pablo Suarez pointed out.

"Of course, we welcome it," he remarked, in reference to the U.S.-Singapore memorandum of understanding signed by U.S. Vice-President Danforth Quayle and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew in Tokyo.

A senior Philippine diplomat pointed out that Singapore is merely offering "success and not a basing arrangement."

"I suppose that when this phaseout (now being negotiated between the Philippines and the U.S. concludes, the U.S. will seek to sign a similar agreement with us," Mr. Suarez opined.

Criminal Jurisdiction

The issue of criminal jurisdiction which snagged the U.S.-Singapore discussions had been resolved with "the U.S. agreeing provisions for U.S. servicemen being covered by a duty-certification process," diplomatic sources disclosed. U.S. military officials were anxious about the mandatory death penalty imposed by Singapore's tough drug laws.

This development "will have some bearing on our talks with the U.S. regarding this same issue," a ranking DFA official said.

The U.S.-Singapore agreement will allow increased frequency of training deployment for U.S. aircraft and port calls by U.S. Navy ships. The increased frequencies may become evident within the next three to six months, Singaporean officials said.

A REUTERS dispatch said the agreement, which grew out of a discussion on how to deal with a possible withdrawal of U.S. forces from the Philippines, will permit the U.S. Air Force to send aircraft to Singapore several times a year on trianing missions and will increase the duration and number of U.S. Navy ships allowed to visit Singapore.

Air Force

Prime Minister Lee and Vice-Pres. Quayle also agreed to increase the number of U.S. Air Force and Navy personnel assigned to Singapore on a year-round basis to about 95 from about 22 at present.

A statement from the Singapore Government said the move was "concrete evidence of the determination of the U.S. to retain a military presence in Southeast Asia for the foreseeable future" and represents "a contribution to the continuing stability" of the region.

The U.S. is reportedly also pursuing talks for access arrangements with Thailand, Brunei and Malaysia.

Manglapus Insists on U.S. Payment for Facilities

HK1511030990 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Nov 90 p 1

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said yesterday that the United States would have to pay for the use of the facilities at Clark Air Base after the lease covering them expires in September. "If they (the Americans) want their activities to stay on, it will have to be done on a commercial basis," Manglapus told reporters at the presidential palace.

Even the Military Airlift Command, a facility central to the operations at Clark, in Pampanga, will be operated commercially, "with the U.S. paying alongside commercial airlines," Manglapus said. The plan is to transform Clark into "a civil-aviation complex."

In fact, he said, Philippine officials and Japanese embassy officials are now talking about the prospect of a Japan Air Lines terminal there.

Clark, the biggest U.S. military base abroad, is a contentious point in current negotiations for a new treaty to govern it and other U.S. military facilities here. For these facilities, the U.S. had given aid, careful not to call it "rent" or otherwise give the impression of the sort of commercial arrangement that Manglapus was now talking about.

"What we're talking about in Clark," he said, "is that we take over it completely."

He also denied reports that the Philippines had conceded "operational control" over it during the negotiations. "There's been no agreement on anything. As they say," he said, "nothing is over till it's over."

"The character of (future) access" to Clark, Subic and the three minor facilities that the Americans are keeping until September will be defined in the next round of talks next month, he said.

President Aquino was even more optimistic. The Philippines and the U.S., she said, are looking forward to a "successful conclusion" of the talks then.

Arriving from Tokyo, where Manglapus had joined her for the enthronement of emperor Akihito, Mrs Aquino quoted U.S. Vice President Danforth Quayle, another guest there, as expressing "the satisfaction" of his government with the progress of the talks. "He informed me that his government was equally content," she said.

She also welcomed the signing recently of an agreement giving American forces increased air and naval access to military installations in Singapore.

Manglapus quoted the President as telling Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew in Tokyo: "This time we are not necessarily alone (in hosting the American bases), because Singapore will share the burden."

The arrangement is consistent with the thesis endorsed by an Indonesian political scientist now visiting Manila. Dr Yusuf Wanandi, chairman of the supervisory board of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Jakata, supported the proposal for a 10-year, even 12-year, U.S. military phaseout.

"The U.S. presence in the Asia-Pacific region is still considered vital to the maintenance of regional peace and stability. Its prime role in the region is to help assure that other big powers will restrain themselves from causing instabilities to arise in the region," Wanandi told the second day plenary of the Pacific Region International Defense Exposition at the Philippine International Convention Center.

"While Singapore, Brunei and Thailand have made their support for the bases known in a more direct manner than Malaysia and Indonesia, all Asean members essentially accept that the Philippines should continue to host them," he said. These six countries compose the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

On the other hand, Prof Henry Trofimenko, a political scientist, journalist and foreign-policy expert in the Soviet Union, criticized the U.S. for carrying on the same "messianic mentality" despite the end to the Cold War. The liberal reforms in the Soviet Union, he said, should "relieve the tension" caused by fears that "it is a threat to the world."

Foreign Secretary on Creation of Bases Authority

BK1511082090 Manila PNA in English 0738 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Manila, Nov. 15 (OANA/PNA)—A bases authority will be created by the Philippine Government to oversee the operations of Clark Air Base, Subic Naval Base, and four other smaller facilities presently occupied the United States, immediately after the termination of the 1947 RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement (MBA).

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, in a press briefing this morning, [words indistinct] the need to create a bases authority will come after September 16, 1991, since the Philippines will have to take over Clark Air Base and the four smaller facilities while Subic will be covered by a transition period agreement for the phasedown of U.S.facilities and personnel and the phase-in of Philippine personnel.

Manglapus said that after the expiration of the MBA, the relationship of the Philippines with the United States regarding Clark Air Base will be on a landlord-tenant basis while at Subic, it will be owner-client relationship.

Manglapus explained the relationship that the Philippines and the United States will have at Clark by citing the John F. Kennedy Airport wherein terminals are administered by individual airlines, [words indistinct] "Any activity of the United States shall be with the permission of the airport authority," Manglapus said. He added that there are plans of the [words indistinct] that the international airport will be transferred at Clark thus the kind of relationship is being crafted.

He also said that Crow Valley will be used on "fee basis" while the special operations wing will remain, but the personnel will not be there except for the pilots. He explained this by saying that the special operations wing is a disaster relief team which will only come in when the need arises.

However, Manglapus said that arrangements of Subic will be quite different from that of Clark since a transition period is being considered.

After the MBA expiration, the U.S. will be given a certain period to be able to phase out its facilities and personnel while at the same time, the Philippines will be phasing-in its facilities and personnel after which, the relationship will be owner-client.

"The U.S. ships will be serviced at Subic [words indistinct] for an access," Manglapus explained. Adding that this relationship will only be in effect after the transition period.

The United States has been open in airing its desire of a 10 to 12 years transition period while the Philippines, according to the foreign secretary, will opt for seven years.

Manglapus: Subic May Be Granted 7 Years More

HK1511094990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Nov 90

[By Rey Arquiza—italicized portion in English]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus today announced the Philippines may allow the U.S. Subic facilities to remain for seven more years, after the military bases agreement expires on 19 September 1991. *Anything below 10 to 12 years would fall within our consideration but our preference is from five to seven years for Subic alone*, said Manglapus in his news briefing this morning.

Earlier, the American panel at the bases talks headed by special negotiator Richard Armitage, said it needs 10 to 12 years for Subic's phasedown.

Manglapus stated there is still no agreement on Subic's transition period, but added that the Philippines will certainly take sovereign control of Clark in September 1991. He explained that the U.S. would be allowed to operate in Clark after 1991 but on a commercial basis.

Earlier, the draft treaty prepared by the Presidential Committee on the Bases was seeking the immediate dismantling of the U.S. facilities in Clark and a possible extension of Subic for three years.

Ramos Looks for Arms Supplier Other Than U.S.

HK1511113590 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] The Philippines is looking for another arms supplier aside from the United States. Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said this in a news briefing in Camp Aguinaldo today. Ramos said the Department of National Defense is studying the various proposals from arms dealers worldwide, to supply the Armed Forces of the Philippines with modern weapons including aircraft.

Meanwhile, the Pacific Legion International Defense Exposition is now being held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Manila. Participating in the exposition are major arms manufacturers from France, the Soviet Union, China, and other countries. On display for the first time at the PICC, are various arms like missiles, antimissiles systems, and Russian armored vehicles.

Continued U.S. Influence in Asia-Pacific Viewed

HK1511031590 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Nov 90 p 3

[By staffmember Manny Mogato]

[Text] The Americans would continue to influence and project its military forces in the Asia-Pacific region over the next 10 to 15 years, despite the rapid rapprochement of U.S. and Soviet relations and the diminished probability of major military conflicts in the area, a top Soviet foreign-policy expert said.

Henry Trofimenko, chief analyst of Moscow's Institute of U.S. and Canadian Studies, said there are still some factors working in favor of continued U.S. military presence in the region despite the end of the Cold War.

"These factors are amplified by the American messianic mentality which is still projecting the U.S. role in today's world as a sort of international policeman," he said in a forum on the second day of the Pacific Region International Defense Exposition (Pride) at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Manila.

Trofimenko presented a paper titled 'Goals and Roles of U.S., USSR, China and Japan in the Next 10 to 15 Years' at the plenary session yesterday. He said, however, that the Americans "will critically review its military posture in Asia-Pacific in light of the new situation and will come to a more modest than presently adopted estimates of its naval and other military needs."

Trofimenko's predictions on continued U.S. presence in the region was shared by an Indonesian defense analyst, Prof. Yusuf Wanandi, head of Jakarta's Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Wanandi said U.S. presence in the region remained "vital for the maintenance of regional peace and stability."

"Its primary goal and role in the region is to help assure that other big powers will restrain themselves from causing instabilities to arise in the region," he said. "This means that the U.S. presence is not merely aimed at checking the Soviet Union but in the future also China, India and Japan."

Trofimenko viewed the American interests in the Asia-Pacific region as geared toward economic, technical, financial and informational, rather than the military realm of politics in their continued presence in the region.

Aquino Defends Trade Relations With Taiwan

HK1511121190 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1200 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino stressed that trade relations the Philippines has with Taiwan are not a violation of its One-China policy. The president issued the statement following accusations hurled at her in relation to her plan to visit Taiwan. She said that trade and commercial relations with Taiwan will continue because they are not official relations and do not violate the policy on China. Earlier China threatened to sever relations with the Philippines in protest against a proposal for the country to establish consultations with Taiwan.

Enrile Formally Announces Plan for 1992 Polls

HK1011055790 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile has formally announced his wish to run in the 1992 presidential polls. Enrile said, based on his own government program, he would grant amnesty to rebel soldiers and communist rebels who want to return to the fold of the law. Enrile stressed that should he be installed to power, he would try to change the course of the economy to a better one within a three-year period, adding that should he fail to fulfill this, he is ready to step down and serve even only as vice president of the country. Enrile's statement came three days after House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr announced his wish to be nominated as the LDP's [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] official candidate for the 1992 presidential polls. However, LDP spokesman Leonardo Guerrero stated that Mitra has to undergo a selection process before he can be fully named as the LDP's official nominee for the election.

Meanwhile, Enrile and House Minority Floor Leader Salvador Escudero confirmed the united opposition will launch a single candidate for the presidential election in 1992. According to them, the fielding of a single opposition candidate will give them a better chance to win power in the government. They identified former Ambassador Eduardo Danding Cojuangco, Senator Joseph Estrada, Senator Enrile, Speaker Ramon Mitra, and Vice President Salvador Laurel as probable candidates. Escudero said former First Lady Imelda Marcos will not run in the polls.

National Democratic Front May Join 1992 Polls

HK1311031790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 13 Nov 90 p 3

[By correspondent Rico R. Rosario]

[Text] The National Democratic Front (NDF) may join the 1992 presidential elections if the government would undertake electoral reforms leading to equal representation, its detained leader Satur Ocampo said yesterday.

Ocampo was interviewed by reporters after his arraignment together with his wife, Carolina Malay, on charges of subversion before the Quezon City Regional Trial Court [RTC].

Equal representation, he said, should first be assured potential presidential bets because they would not have the means to afford a respectable campaign. Ocampo said there is a need to control campaign expenditures as "candidates of the poor" do not stand a chance against well-oiled political parties.

The NDF, he said, would be willing to include electoral reforms on the peace talks agenda. The favorable outcome of the peace talks, and the assurance that electoral changes will be implemented, would eventually prompt the communist rebels to lay down their arms and join the existing form of government, the NDF leader stressed.

In yesterday's arraignment, Judge Maximiano Ascuncion entered separate pleas of not guilty when the couple refused to state their pleas.

In explaining their action, Ocampo cited the Hernandez doctrine stating that common crimes, such as murder and illegal possession of firearms, are deemed absorbed in the crime of rebellion.

However, Ascuncion said that doctrine could not be applied in the couple's case because there were no rebellion charges filed against them.

The two were charged with murder in connection with their alleged involvement in the killing of Bienvenido Liboro, alias Ka [comrade] Romy Sandoval, an alleged deep penetration agent, in Mauban, Quezon in 1988. They are also facing charges of kidnapping before another RTC in Quezon City and illegal possession of firearms before the Makati Regional Trial Court.

Ocampo said they intend to ask the Supreme Court that they be charged with the bailable case of rebellion.

House Speaker Mitra Seeks Aquino's Endorsement

HK1511133390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] House Speaker Ramon Mitra has formally expressed his wish to be nominated as the LDP's [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] official candidate for the 1992 presidential polls. He voiced his wish today to President Aquino. According to Mitra, it would be good if the president endorsed his candidacy, but he said he would not insist. He will consult with the Commission on Elections to avoid being charged with electioneering.

Manhunt Ordered for Military, Police Criminals

HK1311031190 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 13 Nov 90 pp 1, 17

[By Roy C. Sinfuego]

[Text] Maj. Gen. Cesar Nazareno, PC-INP chief, ordered yesterday a nationwide manhunt for at least 40 former soldiers and active members of the Armed Forces and the Integrated National Police (INP) allegedly involved in a series of robberies on banks and big business establishments.

Nazareno also warned other PC-INP officers "not to intercede" in behalf of what he described as "notorious scalawags in the military and police organizations who destroy the image, honor, and integrity of the great majority of men in uniform."

The PC-INP chief directed Brig. Gen. Pantaleon Dumlao, PC Criminal Investigation Service (CIS) chief, to effect the arrest soonest of wanted military and police men against whom warrants of arrest have been issued.

Earlier, a PC colonel was reported to have been exerting pressure on PC-CIS investigators who were looking into the activities of a criminal syndicate operating in Metro Manila.

Military sources said that at least 40 to 50 former members of a deactivated AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] battalion formerly deployed in the National Capital Region (NCR) and Mindanao form part of an armed band especializing in bank armored car robberies.

A former member of the battalion admitted in an exclusive interview that the ex-soldiers have been divided into several groups and now have recruited active members of police and military units in Metro Manila. He recalled that while staying in one of their safe houses, he saw four members of the gang who were wounded in a recent failed armed robbery in Quezon City.

The gang failed in an attempt to rob a bank armored van when responding police and military mobile patrol units engaged its members in a shootout, the informant said.

The same source, who is now assigned to an Army battalion, said the gang members were either big spenders or sent their money to their families in the

Visayas after such successful robbery. He said the gang members were armed with high-powered weapons issued to them while they were in the military service. During big operations, they would bring with them a M-60 US light machingun, M-79 grenade launchers, M-203 rifle grenade launchers, and Armalite rifles.

Some of the gang members have been killed in firefights with lawmen. The latest was ex-Sgt. Eduardo Marasigan who was gunned down by PC-INP operatives in Caloocan City last month.

The PC-CIS National Capital Region (NCR) District Command under Lt. Col. Lucas Managuelod have arrested so far the following suspected members; Cpl. Rodolfo Gulam, member of the security group of the AFP-Logistics Command; ex-Sgt. Danilo Idorese of the Headquarters Service Group, Camp Aguinaldo; PC S/Sgt. Jacinto Lucido of the 216th PC Company; Sgt. Vicente Delfin, former CIS jailer; and ex-Sgt. Cesar Galicia, who are all detained at the PC-CIS jail in Camp Crame, Quezon City.

Hunt Ordered for Military Transceiver Tappers

HK1311045790 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police [PC-INP] Chief Major General Cesar Nazareno ordered the manhunt for radio transceiver owners who monitor the frequencies used by military units. This directive was in response to local PC-INP commanders' complaints about the widespread tapping of military radio transceivers. According to some PC-INP commanders in northern Mindanao, some civilian supporters of renegade Colonel Alexander Noble monitored the military operations during the height of the Mindanao mutiny. Meanwhile, under the National Telecommunications Commission regulations, license holders of radio transmitters are limited to only using the radios assigned to them.

Military, Police, Defense 'Revamp' To Begin

HK1411105890 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] An extensive revamp of high-ranking military, police and Department of National Defense officials is reportedly to begin today and continue to next week. According to the report, among the agencies affected are the Department of National Defense, National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] and the Metropolitan Police Force.

First to be affected is Police General Edgar Dula Torres, current Northern Police District chief, who would allegedly be transferred to a sensitive post as the chief of the Command Personnel Service. Dula Torres would allegedly be succeeded by Paranaque station Commander Colonel Rogelio Pureza.

Meanwhile, the future chief of the Philippine National Police which will replace the present PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police], is said to be the current PC-INP chief Major General Cesar Nazareno. The report also said MMA [Metro Manila Authority] Chairman Jejomar Binay would take Defense Secretary Ramos' post, while NBI Director Alfredo Lim is said to be the favorite candidate as the first secretary for the Department of Interior and Local Government. The report added that traffic enforcement chief General Levy Macasiano would become the Western Police District chief.

Ramos Shrugs Off Reported Extensive Revamp

HK1411110090 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Nov 90

[By Dick Sinchongco]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos shrugged off the reported extensive revamp on the defense and military establishments. According to the report, National Bureau of Investigation Director Alfredo Lim is scheduled to replace Ramos as head of the Department of National Defense. Ramos said anybody can replace him for the top defense post:

[Begin Ramos recording in English] Well, anybody is welcome to that department. [end recording]

At the same time, Ramos said he has not declared his ambition to run in the 1992 presidential elections.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] I haven't announced anything. And besides, I would like to reiterate my announcement that what is important is 1990 and performing in 1990, because afterall that's what our people need. You know, when I say perform in 1990, I'm talking about what our people expect. But if you are looking for the future, we should even look up to the very first [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Ramos issued the clarification due to the increasing reports that he will be endorsed by President Aquino in the 1992 presidential race.

Suspect Says KMU New People's Army Front

HK1311034790 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 12 Nov 90 pp 1, 7

[By correspondent Fer Taboy]

[Text] The Capital Regional Command [Capcom] claims that the Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU—1 May Movement] was involved in the ambush of three military men in Mandaluyong last Saturday night. This was announced yesterday following the arrest of two suspected members of the Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB], the New People's Army military unit in Metro Manila. The arrests came in connection with the ambush of two Capcom operatives and one policeman. Captured were Romulado Pajantoy, 26, and Arnulfo Millondaga, 28, who are both KMU members. Pajantoy admitted that the KMU serves as a front of the NPA. He also revealed the whereabouts of Millondaga.

PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] Chief Major General Cesar P. Nazareno received a report from Capcom Chief Brigadier General Mariano Filart saying that Pajantoy was arrested in Medical City while he was seeking medication for a bullet wound inflicted during a shootout with police after the ambush. Millondaga was arrested in M.H. del Pilar, Pinagbuhatan, Pasig. Another suspect, Percival Florante, is being hunted.

The plate number of the vehicle used by the suspects in the ambush is PAF-325. It was stolen on 9 November at around 5:45 AM in Santolan, Pasig from Albert Bugos. The suspects made Bugos alight at Karangalan Village, Cainta and drove away with his car. The slain military men were Staff Sergeant Herbert Belado, Constable 2d Class Ferdinand Coloma, and Patrolman Roman Flor.

Pajantoy disclosed to the Capcom Regional Investigation Unit [RIU] that Florante led the ambush and Millondaga was the mastermind behind the killings. Filart ordered the RIU to investigate the KMU members and he hopes the RIU will learn who among them belong to the ABB. The military also discovered that the suspects were involved in a bus burning incident in Pasig during the nationwide strike.

Filart warned his officers and men since the Capcom is allegedly the ABB's major target.

Communist Rebels To Shun Anti-Aquino Protests

HK1411133590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Text] The communist rebels announced they have abandoned the strategy of joining popular protests against the Aquino government. According to the Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB], their hands-off policy is a challenge to the military and police not to meddle in strikes. However, the ABB said it still has the right to retaliate if the military disrupts or violently disperses any strikes.

Peace Process To Proceed Despite 'Problem'

HK1211111990 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1100 GMT 12 Nov 90

[By Rene Dichangco]

[Text] The peace advocates will push forward the formation of a framework for a ceasefire, despite the reported withdrawal by the National Democratic Front [NDF] of its peace offer. In this regard, Congressman Bonifacio Gillego, a peace panel member, said that despite this problem they are firm in pressing forth the peace talks process. Gillego said they will continue to draft policies for the establishment of peace zones. The Bicol solon also stated President Aquino will name eight more peace zones on her return from Japan. Earlier reports stated the NDF has withdrawn its peace proposal because the government has allegedly sold national sovereignty, saying the government has granted the Americans continuous operational control of the U.S. facilities in the country. Congressman Gillego, however, doubted the accuracy of this report.

NPA Hitmen Said To Kill Soldiers in Tarlac

HK1211062390 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Nov 90 p 22

[By Charlie Abagat]

[Text] Tarlac, Tarlac—Two Constabulary soldiers were killed by armed men believed to be New People's Army (NPA) "Sparrows" at sitio Suba, Matatalib, this town Saturday afternoon.

Lt. Col. Romulo Latosquin, Tarlac police station commander, identified the fatalities as Sgt. Bartolome Solota and C2C [Constable Second Class] Ronaldo Gacho, both assigned to the 81st PC [Philippino Constabulary] Company at Camp Makabulos.

Initial investigation disclosed the victims were cruising along the highway on a motorcycle when they were flagged down by the gunmen and shot at close range with .45 caliber pistols. Bystanders told police the gunmen were young, tall and clad in white T-shirts, denim pants and white rubber shoes.

Rebels Kill Three in Nueva Ecija Town Hall

HK1311135790 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] Several communist rebels wearing military uniforms killed a jail warden and two civilians in a raid on the General Natividad, Nueva Ecija town hall. The rebels carted away seven M-16 rifles, seven pistols, a radio and office equipment.

Meanwhile, Brigadier General Manuel Bruan ordered an investigation into reports that the military in the town hall did fight the rebels:

[Begin Bruan recording—in progress]...*investigating on that* because the report was that the killed policeman fought. *Now, I'm investigating—I have this investigated* because 15 policemen are supposed to be there but there were only two or three present during the raid. [end recording]

Bataan Military Claims Victory Over Communists

HK1511032790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Nov 90 p 12

[By Lino Sanchez]

[Text] Camp Aquino, Tarlac—The Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) of the Armed Forces said yesterday it has crushed the backbone of the communist movement in Bataan after dismantling the New People's Army (NPA) there.

In a report to Brig. Gen. Gumersindo T. Yap, Nolcom commanding general, Col. Rene S. Dado, 702nd Infantry Brigade commander, said the Bataan NPA, including its political groups in influenced barangays, has been neutralized as a result of combat operations backed by PC [Philippine Constabulary] troops and militiamen and the full support of local officials and civilians in the government's anti-insurgency campaign.

Col. Santiago Medrana Jr., deputy Nolcom chief and head of the command's evaluation team, also told Yap that the communist fronts in Bataan have been dismantled. The NPA suffered the "second fall of Bataan," Medrana said.

Yap said at least 13 companies of the Citizens' Armed Forces Geographical Units (CAFGU) have been deployed in Bataan to protect villages and prevent the return of the rebels in 36 "liberated" barangays.

The Nolcom chief said a unit of the Army's engineering battalion, in coordination with the provincial government, is undertaking community projects in line with the government's development-oriented anti-insurgency campaign.

He said the launching of the military campaign since last February has resulted in the capture, surrender, or the killing of 254 of 602 armed NPA regulars and the seizure of at least 187 assorted guns. He added that the remnants of the NPAs are on the run.

Yap said the NPA's multi-million-peso "progressive tax" collection activities in Bataan have been busted and businessmen and fishpond operators have stopped contributing to the rebels and vowed their full support to the military.

Four Killed in Raid on Kalinga-Apayao Base

HK1511110090 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] In Cordillera region, a member of the Philippine Constabulary [PC] and three militia men were killed when communist rebels attacked their patrol base in Bantay, Tabuk, Kalinga-Apayao. According to a report received by Camp Crame, over 70 rebels attacked the PC-CAFGU [Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit] patrol base in sitio Danimono. The rebels took the victims' guns.

Meanwhile in Benguet Province, the provincial PC command reported that communist rebels burned three trucks owned by Benguet Mining allegedly because of Benguet Mining Corporation's refusal to pay taxes to the New People's Army [NPA] rebels operating in the Benguet mountains.

In the Bicol region, Colonel Victor Mayo assured that the 201st Infantry Brigade, Philippine Army will intensify its campaign against the communists in Camarines Sur. This followed a report from the Department of Trade that two foreign companies withdrew their plans to set up business in the province due to the NPA rebels' threat. According to Colonel Mayo, only one town in the province is considered as being under the rebels' control, Lagonoy town, where the two foreign investors planned to set up their mining project.

Rebel Killed, 4 Arrested in Military Operations

HK1511071190 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0645 GMT 15 Nov 90

[By Josette Olivera; all names as heard]

[Text] The military killed a communist rebel, arrested four others, while 13 voluntarily surrendered during counterinsurgency operations in separate regions around the country over the past two days.

Based on a report reaching Camp Aguinaldo, elements of the Bulacan intelligence training unit and the 171st Philippine Constabulary [PC] Company in Sitio Bagbag, Calumpit, Bulacan captured a communist rebel identified as Nilo Fernandez, alias Comrade Rey. Confiscated from Fernandez were a .32 caliber revolver, several subversive documents, and personal belongings.

In Region 3, 10 communist rebels voluntarily surrendered to Major Manuel Quevito, commanding officer of the 189th PC Company in Allaga, Nueva Ecija, through the special operating team under Master Sergeant Ricardo Tingson. The surrenderees were identified as Rodrigo Baldomero, alias Comrade Ramil; Bonifacio Clemente, alias Comrade Tamboy; Serge de la Cruz; Eduardo Dolores, alias Comrade Eddie; Gaudencio Marcelo, alias Comrade Lando; Domingo Mariao, alias Comrade Donnie; Reynaldo Roveles, alias Comrade Toto; Isidro Dionisio, alias Comrade Willie; Danilo Laguien; and an unidentified rebel. They were freed and are now under their barangay captain's custody.

Still in Region 3 in Calumpit, Bulacan, three communist rebels also voluntarily surrendered to 2d Lieutenant Fernando Villanueva of the Bulacan 171st PC Company. They were Policarpio Aguilar, Ernesto de Belen, and Rey Javier.

In Barangay San Nicolas, San Simon, Pampanga, elements of the 172d PC Company arrested three rebels identified as Emiliano Catacutan, alias Comrade Sition; Rey Capuli, alias Comrade Rey; and Mario Gatchalian, alias Comrade Mar.

In Region 9, a section of Bravo Company, 18th Infantry Battalion, under Technical Sergeant Fokno, encountered 15 communist rebels near Mt. Soso, Tigpani, Kabasalan, Zamboanga del Sur, which resulted in the killing of a communist rebel. The government troopers recovered a Garand rifle, a 40-mm grenade launcher, 40 rounds of

M-16 rifle ammunition; a M-16 short magazine; two Garand clips; a roll of electric wire for landmines; and subversive documents.

Military Raids Suspected NPA Camp in Quezon

HK1511110790 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 15 Nov 90

[By Rolly Sanchez]

[Text] The Southern Luzon command reported that government soldiers raided what was believed to be a New People's Army [NPA] camp. The report said the joint force of the 74th Infantry Battalion, Philippine Army, and 231st Philippine Constabulary company under the leadership of Lieutenant Madrigal, raided the camp located in a remote location in barangay San Jose, Mauban, Quezon. The camp reportedly had 12 huts and a toilet. It was believed that the camp was abandoned when the rebels predetermined the arrival of the soldiers. The military suspected that the camp may be owned by Leopoldo Mabilangan alias Comrade Hector and other high-ranking CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA. The report added that the military is continuing with its clearing operation of the area.

Decrease in Strike Incidences Reported

HK1311032190 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 13 Nov 90 p 2

["Indicator" column: "Strikes Decrease 6%"]

[Text] Strike incidence as of mid-October slightly decreased compared to the same period last year. The National Conciliation and Mediation Board (NCMB) reported that 150 actual strikes were declared during the 38-week period, or 6% less than those declared last year. Despite the fewer declared strikes, more workers were involved, however. The 150 strikes involved 65,403 workers, or more than double the number involved last year. The situation may imply that these workers were employed in companies whose operations are labor-intensive.

Man-days lost in the 38-week period reached 1.17 million days, or 76% more than the year before.

Data also show that there were less cases handled during the period despite more pending case turned over from last year. Total cases handled reached 162, seven cases less than last year.

The NCMB was able to settle only 113 cases or 70% of the total. During the same period last year, the board was able to settle 125 cases or 74%, with 18 cases left unresolved.

Records show that the number of strikes arising from bargaining deadlocks is on the rise. Bargaining deadlock between management and labor usually result from non-compromise in the renewal of expiring collective bargaining agreements (CBAs).

A CBA outlines the benefits of workers within a specified period of time usually three to five years. The benefits, monetary and non-monetary, demanded by labor are usually above the mandatory requirement in the Labor Code.

Workers nationwide have been clamoring for increased monetary benefits as inflation has constantly been on the rise.

With 1978 as base year, real legislated daily wages of non-agricultural workers in Metro Manila for October was only worth P [Philippine Peso] 16.87. At the start of the year, real wages stood at P18.93, a difference of P2.06.

Likewise, industrial and commercial workers outside the metropolis also experienced the same shrinking value of their take-home pay whose value decreased to only P19.12 from P20.39.

Strike Situationer

January 1 - October 15, 1990 & 1989

Actual Work Stoppages	1990	1989	% Change
Pending, beginning of period	12	9	33.33
Actual strikes/lockouts declared	150	160	(6.25)
Total cases handled	162	169	(4.14)
Workers involved in new cases	65,403	39,377	66.09
Mandays lost	1,170,000	663,000	76.47
Cases disposed	144	155	(7.10)
Cases settled	113	125	(9.60)
Disposition rate	88.89	91.72	(3.08)
Settlement rate	69.75	73.96	(5.69)
Pending, end of period	18	14	28.57
Notices of Work Stoppages			
Pending, beginning of period	133	134	(0.75)

Strike Situationer

January 1 - October 15, 1990 & 1989

Actual Work Stoppages	1990	1989	% Change
Strike/lockout notices flied	1,308	1,258	3.97
Total cases handled	1,441	1,392	3.52
Workers involved	294,457	290,788	1.26
Cases disposed	1,232	1,200	2.67
Cases settled	991	957	3.55
Pending, end of period	209	192	8.85
Disposition rate	85.50	86.21	(0.82)
Settlement rate	68.77	68.75	0.03

Source: National Conciliation and Mediation Board

Department of Labor and Employment

Thailand

Two Soldiers Said Wounded at Khmer Rouge Camp

BK0911144290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1332 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] Bangkok, Nov 9 (AFP)—Two Thai soldiers were slightly wounded in a grenade attack at a camp controlled by Khmer Rouge guerrillas near Thailand's border with Cambodia, relief officials said here Friday.

The explosion occurred Thursday when the grenade was thrown at a dormitory of the Paramilitary Displaced Persons Protection Unit (DPPU) on the perimeter of the O'Trao settlement, said the officials, who requested anonymity.

The camp at O'Trao, some 10 kilometers (six miles) from the border of northern Cambodia, serves as a staging ground for infiltrations by Khmer Rouge units under the command of Ta Mok, considered among the most radical of the faction's military leaders.

The Khmer Rouge, an extreme Marxist group ousted from power in Cambodia when Vietnam invaded the country 12 years ago, is the military backbone of a guerrilla coalition fighting Phnom Penh's Hanoi-installed government. It receives massive military assistance from China.

The faction controls three United Nations-assisted camps along the Thai border: O'Trao, with a population of 14,000 to the northeast; Site 8, which houses 36,000 people in the central part of the border area; and Site K, which houses 9,000 to the southwest.

There has been chronic tension at O'Trao in the last few months, according to sources familiar with Cambodian refugee problems. Several grenade attacks occurred in August, apparently without causing any casualties, they said.

The August explosions may have resulted from Khmer Rouge irritation following a headcount by the United Nations border relief operations that resulted in substantially reduced U.N. food rations at the camp, the sources said.

The camp population was found to be 12,000, against nearly 23,000 in January, after Khmer Rouge commanders brought inmates back to Cambodia either to populate their own "liberated zones" or to help build roads, the sources said.

Last month, a survey in O'Trao by the U.N. high commissioner for refugees aimed at finding out what intentions the refugees had on repatriation to Cambodia may have led to changes in the camp leadership, they said. The changes followed an emergency meeting called by Ta Mok at his headquarters in Anlong Veng in Cambodia, some 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of the border.

Cambodia experts describe the 64-year-old Ta Mok, believed to have had a leg amputated years ago after he stepped on a mine, as a law unto himself. Experts believe he takes orders only from Pol Pot, the leader of the Khmer Rouge regime that left hundreds of thousands of Cambodians dead during its rule from 1975 to 1979.

The two Thai soldiers were wounded by shrapnel Thursday while inside the DPPU building at O'Trao, relief officials said. An investigation into the incident is under way and the camp has been placed under limited medical access, which means medical personnel are the only aid workers allowed inside the camp, they said.

Center Sends Home 153 Lao Refugees 14 Nov

BK1511022590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Nong Khai—The United Nations-run refugee holding centre in Chiang Kham Disrict in Phayao sent home 153 Laotian refugees across the Mekong River yesterday. Vientiane officials received 22 families, including 47 men, 53 women, 35 boys and 18 girls.

The centre has about 35,000 Laotian refugees since about 1,500 have returned home voluntarily, said centre official Wisin Sapphasi. Seventy per cent of the Laotians there are under 16, he said.

The UN provides repatriated Laotian refugees with rice and tools for one year and builds health care units, irrigation systems, schools and job training centres for them.

Statement Made by Ambassador to GATT Council

BK1011031490 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Nov 90 p A9

[Statement read by Thai Ambassador Tet Bunnak to the full GATT council in Geneva on 7 November]

[Text] First of all, my delegation wishes to express our deep and sincere appreciation to the chairman and members of the Panel who, despite their heavy schedules, have so willingly devoted their time and energy to the consideration of this dispute. We are further thankful to the Panel for having carried out its responsibilities in a fair, competent and professional manner.

I am pleased to inform the Council that my authorities have studied the Panel report very carefully and have found it to be legally correct, sound and very well balanced. Therefore, despite one of the conclusions that the quantitative restrictions on the importation of cigarettes maintained by my country are contrary to Article XI: 1 (which prohibits quantitative restrictions such as import bans) and are not justified by any GATT provisions, my delegation supports the adoption of the report in its entirety at this Council meeting.

Naturally, we are pleased that the Panel has also come to the correct conclusion that Thailand's current regulations relating to the excise, business and municipal taxes on cigarettes are consistent with her obligations under Article III of the General Agreement (which prohibits discrimination between foreign and local products in setting tax rates).

In agreeing to the adoption of the Panel report, I wish to make the following remarks which I hope will help clarify Thailand's position regarding the dispute.

The United States originally took up the issue of Thailand's restrictions on importation of cigarettes in the context of Section 301 of the Trade Act. Thailand's position has been very clear from the beginning: we firmly believe that trade disputes should be settled only under multilateral rules, and not under unilateral pressures at the threat of retaliation. We consider that the legality aspects of the dispute should be determined only in the light of multilateral standards. We are willing to accept judgement from our peers in the GATT but we will not accept any unilateral interpretation of the legality of our practice.

That is why we agreed without delay to the US request for the establishment of the panel. I belive that this is the first case under the new GATT dispute settlement rules and procedures adopted on a trial basis in April 1989 at the Mid-Term Reviewing Meeting of the Uruguay Round. Hence, in a sense we are a test case of the new rules and procedures and we want to show the world that the GATT dispute settlement procedures could provide an effective alternative to unilateral procedures. That is why we fully cooperated with the Panel and the US delegation at every step of the Panel proceedings. The result is that the Panel has been able to present its report for the consideration of the Council only 7 months after its establishment in April this year. And if the Council decides to adopt the report today, and we see no reason why not, it would be one of the most efficient dispute caes in GATT history.

Thailand did not even wait for the Council formally to adopt the Panel report before she began to bring her practice on cigarette importation into conformity with her obligations under the General Agreement. Indeed, on October 9, four days after this report was circulated to contracting parties, the Thai cabinet took a decision to lift the ban on importation of cigarettes and to ensure that all laws and regulations on cigarettes conform to national treatment obligations.

The Thai government is therefore extremely concerned that despite all this progress, the US government still deems it fit to persist to seek additional concessions from Thailand under Section 301 of the US Trade Act. By 25 November, the US will make a determination regarding Thailand's practics on cigarettes and whether to take retaliatory action against Thailand. If the US decides to retaliate, we will have no option but to seek the establishment of another GATT panel to determine the GATT legality of such action.

It must be clear from the Report that Thailand's cigarette regime is based on public health policy considerations. The Thai government intends to take all measures which are necessary to prevent an increase in tobacco consumption, and to reduce it if possible. We take heart from the Panel report that there are a set of measures consistent with the General Agreement which can be taken to control both the supply of and demand for cigarettes, as long as they are applied to both domestic and imported cigarettes on a national treatment basis.

I would like to conclude by saying that as a contracting party to the GATT, Thailand intends to abide by our GATT obligations. We have lifted our import ban and our present laws and regulations are in accordance with the national treatment principle. On the other hand, we must make sure that we are not forced to accept conditions that are imposed on us above and beyond our GATT obligations. We believe in the multilateral dispute system and we cannot allow the credibility of such a system to be undermined by unilateral action.

Ministry Seeks Return of 'Stolen' Shipment

BK1111034890 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has instructed the Thai Embassy in Beijing to coordinate with Chinese authorities to seek the return of a Thai rubber shipment on board a stolen ship in Shanghai, the People's Republic of China. The shipment was sent by Thai rubber exporters on the Panamanian-registered ship M.B. Joyce for delivery to their buyers in Singapore. The ship went missing after it had left the Southern Province of Songkhla in late September. It was recently found in Shanghai under a new name (Windai). The ministry said the stolen ship has been confiscated and the rubber cargo was still on board. It stressed that it would try to help Thai cargo owners so that they will be given back their goods.

Foreign Minister Cuts Short PRC Visit

BK1511010590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Nov 90 p A4

[Text] Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan has cut short his visit to Beijing and will return to Bangkok today because of his scheduled trip to Laos next week, a senior official said yesterday.

Subin who accompanied Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan to attend the enthronement of Japanese Emperor Akihito in Tokyo left the premier's group at Beijing to prepare for his two-day trip to Laos starting on Monday.

Chatchai reportedly arrived at Beijing yesterday on his five-day working visit where he will meet Chinese leaders, including his counterpart Li Peng.

The official said Subin's itinerary in Vientiane is still being arranged. But he is likely to meet his Lao counterpart, Phoun Sipaseut, to discuss bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

Thai-Lao cooperation to develop hydro-electricity in Mekong River is likely to be top of agenda in the talks, said the official.

Sources at the Lao Embassy in Bangkok said other than meeting with Phoune, Subin will meet other Lao leaders, including acting President Phoumi Vongvichit, acting Industrial Minister Soulivong Dalavong and Commerce and Tourism Minister Phao Bounnaphon.

Director-General of Political Department Sarot Chawanawirat and former Director-General of the Department of International Organizations Kasit Phirom will be among those who will accompany Subin.

PRC Reports on Prime Minister Chatchai's Visit

WA1411183990

For Chinese reportage on the visit to China by Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, including meetings with Premier Li Peng, see the Southeast Asia & Pacific section of the 15 November and subsequent issues of the China DAILY REPORT.

Chaloem Denounces Corruption Commission Move

BK1011024390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Nov 90 p A1

[By Sorayut Suthasanachinda and Ophat Bunloem]

[Text] Embattled PM's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung clashed with the Counter Corruption Commission (CCC) yesterday over its decision to investigate the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand (MCOT) board in connection with a corruption scandal, denouncing the move as a political onslaught against him.

CCC President Sak Sanongchat immediately hit back at the minister saying that the anti-graft body wanted to probe the board, chaired by Chaloem, out of suspicion that it was attempting to conceal the MCOT's guilt in the case involving the termination of an advertising contract between TV Channel 9 and the Little Duck Co Ltd.

Chaloem yesterday questioned the CCC's move to investigate the MCOT board, saying he found no reason why the CCC should have to launch the probe merely because of a difference of opinion over the corruption scandal. "It's unbelievable, the CCC has fully jumped into politics," he told reporters at Government House.

The minister said he knew who was behind the "political onslaught" against him and threatened to expose them, adding that he also plans to seek an explanation for the probe from the minister who oversees the CCC (PM's Office Minister Bun-ua Prasoetsuwan) in the House of Representatives when Parliament reconvenes.

The CCC ruled in May this year that MCOT Director Rachan Husayn was responsible for a huge revenue loss resulting from the contract termination, but the MCOT board later decided, in contradiction to the CCC's ruling, that Rachan was innocent. The anti-graft body, however, reaffirmed on Nov 1 its ruling that holds Rachan accountable for the damage from his scrapping of the advertising deal.

Reacting to the MCOT board's defence of Rachan, the CCC said on Thursday that it would investigate the whole panel in connection with the corruption scandal, originally brought to the CCC's attention by some opposition MPs.

Little Duck leased air time from TV Channel 9, run by the MCOT, in 1989 to resell to advertisers. But the company ran into heavy losses and was saved from paying compensation to MCOT by Rachan's decision to end the advertising deal.

Rachan is known to be Chaloem's political protege. Many of the MCOT board members were also handpicked by Chaloem, who oversees the MCOT.

According to the CCC, the loss from the contract termination was estimated at Bt225 million. The commission said earlier that Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan would have to decide whether legal and/or disciplinary action should be taken against Rachan.

Asked what he thought about the CCC's move to probe the MCOT board, Chaloem yesterday said he believed "100 per cent" that it is a political onslaught against him. "Anybody can sense that trick," he said.

In the past, the CCC never launched probes against government agencies that contradicted its rulings in corruption cases, said Chaloem.

Had the anti-graft agency done with other units as it has done in ordering an investigation against the MCOT board, various police units would have faced the largest number of probes because they had upheld only about 20 of its 100 rulings against policemen under investigation, he said. The minister claimed that the CCC has never investigated the agencies that contradicted its rulings because it knew that such a move is legally invalid.

Chaloem, who has an uncertain political future in the government after the premier said he would be excluded from the Cabinet after his serious conflict with the military, said he regarded the CCC's announcement of its planned investigation against the MCOT board as being irresponsible and disastrous to the MCOT.

Chaloem said he would not personally discuss with Bun-ua the problems involving the probe against the MCOT board.

CCC president Sak, meanwhile, denied Chaloem's charge that the CCC intended to attack him politically, arguing that the loss from the Little Duck deal was significant and the MCOT could not deny responsibility for the damage.

The CCC will have to investigate the MCOT board, including Chaloem, because it suspects that the board's contradiction of the commission's ruling in the case was an attempt to cover up guilt, he said. "I have never harassed anyone and none of the CCC officials is involved in politics," he added.

Sak said the CCC will submit the results of its probe of the MCOT to the prime minister and Cabinet for acknowledgement.

Paper Discusses Future of Chaloem, Chatchai

BK1011040090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Nov 90 p A12

[Editorial: "Chaloem's Political Future"]

[Text] PM's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung's career as a "guard dog" of the prime minister is coming to an end. After his master returns from a trip to Japan and China next Friday, Chaloem will likely be dropped from the Cabinet in a reshuffle strongly "recommended" by the military. Yet Chaloem, true to his flamboyant style, is not going to whimper and hide himself from the public. In fact he refuses to tender his resignation, but will wait for the premier to reshuffle the Cabinet. Then he will withdraw his Muan Chon Party of 5 MPs from the government coalition so that he can tell his constituents in Thonburi he leaves the Cabinet under his own choice.

This is a nice graceful exit for Chaloem, whom the military would rather see sacked from the Cabinet much sooner. It also saves Premier Chatchai Chunhawan the embarrassment of having to fire Chaloem after two years of dedicated service as his political bodygard. What then lies in Chaloem's political future?

Even before he is out of the government coalition, his men in the Muan Chon Party have already threatened to "expose" some Cabinet members with questionable records. After two years inside the administration, Chaloem and his men must have amassed a wealth of information about many ministers—and, perhaps about the prime minister as well. This leads to the widespread belief that Chaloem knows many secrets and could blow up the Chatchai administration with damaging disclosures should he bear any grudge against his master.

Chaloem's destructive ability cannot be underestimated. He played a crucial role in embarrassing Gen Prem Tinsulanon with innuendoes and forcing him to dissolve the House in April 1988 to avoid a censure in which Chaloem had threatened to divulge secrets of Prem's personal live. Now who is going to stop Chaloem from doing the same to Premier Chatchai?

Once outside of the administration and without power, Chaloem will find himself extremely vulnerable. The Supreme Comamand will sue him for his alleged involvement in eavesdropping on military communications with the controversial mobile electronic unit of the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand [MCOT]. The Counter Corruption Commission [CCC] will ivestigate the entire MCOT board of directors, chaired by Chaloem, for shielding MCOT Director Rachan Husen in the Little Duck affair. The CCC has held Rachan responsible for making the state enterpries lose more than Bt [Baht] 200 million in compensation which would otherwise be collectible from Little Duck had he not freed the private firm from the financial obligation after it backed out of a contract with the MCOT.

Chaloem will have nothing to gain, politically speaking, if the Chatchai administration manages to stay in power until the end of its four-year term in mid 1992. But he and his party may receive a lot of sympathy votes for his "courage" in challenging the military if a general election is held soon. In this respect, Chaloem and opposition leaders, particularly Samak Suntharawet of Prachakon Thai Party, share a common interest in trying to bring down the administration and force the premier to dissolve the House.

Actually an early general election may be more acdeptable to many senior Chat Thai politicians than trying to tough it out. It saves them from a possible direct hit by Chaloem. It also undermines ex-army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut's chance of scoring a big victory as his party is still in its infancy.

But what is good for the core government party may not be also good to the premier who does not want to run in the next general election. If he steps down or dissolves the House, his political career will come to an abrupt end. His sacrifice of Chaloem is the latest indication that the premier is not ready to leave office yet.

Improvement Expected After Politician's Removal

BK1111100990 Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Sayamanusati Feature]

[Text] Respected listeners, there is a saying that people who are about to die usually act out their conscience. For example, pig slaughterers scream like pigs when their throats are being slit, while chicken slaughterers cackle like chickens that are being choked to death. Have you ever seen people who are in a situation where no matter how hard they try they cannot but escape death, such as those who are caught in a fire burning down their homes with the exits blocked by strong antiburglar bars, or prisoners being taken to execution? These are scenes that will sadden anyone who witnesses them.

Listeners, now a politician who once possessed great fortune and charisma is facing such a predicament, as the power he has enjoyed is about to be stripped away. This politician's loss of power will not, however, evoke the sympathy of the people. Instead, the people will deride and celebrate the fact that they no longer have to listen or witness his arrogant acts, blackmail, and gloatings of superiority.

Yes, after the change, the political atmosphere is expected to improve, and hopefully, people will resume paying attention to the country's situation, as part of the sewage has been removed. We will definitely get to see this politician's last and desparate act before he relinquishes his seat.

Listeners, the saying that a mountain burdens the earth less than an evil person who deceives the world is certainly true. Speaking to the mass media, a politician about to lose power denied he was instigating a mob, saying he was merely announcing that his visitors should come on a certain day, time, and place. No, he cannot be accused of instigating mobs and creating confusion. He is unable to distinguish what kinds of action constitute mob instigation, which is why he encourages his guests, friends, and followers to bid him farewell at a place that is neither a restaurant nor a private residence. Instead, he chooses a place unsuitable for public gatherings, especially at a time when he is about to lose power. What an innocent action on his part. This reminds us of the television play Innocent Sin.

Listeners, some people, especially in the rural areas, are becoming this politician's unwitting tools. An interesting report says that people in Tambon Khu Muang and Ban Dan, Buriram Province have been persuaded by certain government servants and colleagues of this politician to gather in front of Government House. Why must people be brought from distant places, taking into consideration the inconvenience and expense? The answer is that city people know what is going on and are difficult to deceive. So people from far-away places are used. The politician's core followers will deceive these rural people by telling them that they would be given a free tour of Bangkok. This trick, similar to the trick of planting mobs against one's rival, is no longer a strange sight to those living near Government House.

Yes, people who are about to lose power have to struggle with all their might. If one has more to hide he has to struggle that much harder. This is not unusual. This is because once he loses power, he will lose whatever he used to get. Also, whatever he has obtained illegally will be exposed to the public. People, particularly government officials who have colluded with him, have no choice but to help him. We have secret reports identifying by name and position local officials who are colluding with the evil politician to mobilize the masses in Buriram to travel to Bangkok to form a mob. Also among these are businessmen who have used the influence and power of this politician for the benefit of their business. In addition to these is a man who provides the financial assistance. He is the one who financed the eucalyptus plantation arson in Nang Rong District.

Listeners can you fathom what will happen when evil people collude? We are warning that if this Tuesday's situation is not controlled, there could be violence triggered by the skillful mob directors.

Listeners, this politician has been able to ascend to a post that every politician seeks. This politician lacks both the leadership and achievements that will proof his ability. This politician began his career by befriending the press, but he betrayed the press when he became powerful. He has charged other politicians with unfairness in the treatment of permanent government servants, but he manipulated to have his men appointed to desired civil service positions. He used his eloquence to criticize the dishonest practices of others, but he has been linked to many dishonest acts. Why have we allowed the country to deteriorate into a situation that permits bad people to rise to power? Why have we allowed a broken, useless tile to [words indistinct]?

Listeners, as we are a people with common sense and not slaves under the influence and power of this bad politician, why must we be used to support this person who is writhing to retain his political position? It is time for us to remove this rusted bolt and replace it with one that fits. At least, faith in the present government will certainly improve.

Chaloem Rally Called 'Last-Ditch Attempt'

BK1111032290 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Nov 90 p A1

[By Phonsak Srisod]

[Text] The Army yesterday accused PM's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung of organizing a rally this coming Tuesday in a "last-ditch" attempt to save his Cabinet post. With the rally, Chaloem may claim that the public still wants him to stay on with Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, using it to justify keeping the controversial minister, army sources said.

In the script of a commentary to be broadcast in the Sayamanusati radio programme today, the army said a politician who denied he was behind a plot to organize a "mob"—an unmistakable reference to Chaloem—was making his last attempt to cling to power.

Army sources elaborated that they also suspected Prime Minister might go back on his promise to remove Chaloem from the Cabinet because he announced at Don Muang airport last Thursday that Chaloem had stated his intention to stay outside the Cabinet when it is reshuffled despite his (Chatchai) pledge to senior military officers.

They said Chatchai told Supreme Commander Gen [General] Sunthon Khongsomphong, army chief Gen Suchinda Khraphrayun, air force chief ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset Rotchananin and navy chief Admiral Praphat Kritsanachan over breakfast that he would remove Chaloem from the Cabinet within the day. But nothing happened that day, prompting all the top military officers with the exception of Suchinda, who was represented by deputy army chief Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, to drop in at the premier's Ratchakhru residence to ask him to keep his word.

Chatchai explained to them that he had talked with Chaloem, who asked he be allowed to quit instead of being dismissed. The premier referred to a late-night interview given by Chaloem where he told reporters he would not protest if he was dropped from the Cabinet in a reshuffle because his party was small. The premier also said there was just no time for him to sackf Chaloem in a day. For technical reasons, the premier reportedly said His Majesty the King should be given at least a day to sign a royal decree dismissing a minister before sending it to the prime minister, who has to counter-sign it before the announcement can be made over Radio Thailand. The premier said he would not be available to countersign it because he was about to leave for Japan on Thursday morning.

Sunthon told the premier in that case, he should tell the public at the airport that Chaloem would resign. At the airport, the premier said Chaloem had informed him that he did not want to stay on after the next Cabinet reshuffle.

Army sources also said the top military officers' suspicions were aroused because the premier gave them the impression that he would sack Chaloem and agreed that the military was in the right where the dispute over the controversial mobile radio station was concerned. In that incident the military seized the truck from the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand on spying charges last June.

At the Wednesday morning meeting, Chatchai even teased Sunthon with a tongue-in-cheek remark that he would like Sunthon to resign and succeed him as defence minister because the supreme commander had only about 10 months to go before his retirement. That remark eased the tension between them and prompted Suchinda to tell reporters that the problem had been settled in a "brotherly atmosphere."

The army chief was reportedly upset that things did not go as he was given to understand at the Wednesday meeting, army sources said.

Army sources also said Chatchai followed up on his suggestion to name Sunthon defence minister by getting in touch with ACM Kaset Wednesday night, asking the air force chief to lobby for supreme commander's agreement to quit the Armed Forces and join the coalition Cabinet. The premier, the sources said, told ACM Kaset that he wanted Sunthon to succeed him a Chat Thai leader after the government ends its term.

The premier claimed that he had just won Chat Thai secretary general Banhan Sinlapa-acha's agreement in a talk Wednesday night on making Sunthon his heir apparent. "Banhan knows he would not be able to make it to the top of Chat Thai," the premier was quoted as saying.

Chatchai also asked ACM Kaset to lobby for Suchinda's consent on his move, saying that he would give the army chief the additional post of supreme commander.

The army sources said the premier pursued the proposal in a bid to patch up relations between the military and the government so the administration would be able to survive the rest of its four-year term. But the military leaders rejected the proposal.

In the script of radio commentary made available to THE NATION yesterday, the Sayamanusati programme said the army had received intelligence showing that a politician had used some local officials with support from some businessmen to mobilize villagers in Tambon Khu Muang and Tambon Ban Dan in Buriram province for the demonstration at Government House on Tuesday.

Chawalit Yongchaiyut Rejects Joining Government

BK1111024290 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Former Army commander-in-chief Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday said he would reject any offer to join the Government in a Cabinet reshuffle, expected after Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan returns from Japan and China this week.

Responding to a reporter's question about a report he might be asked to take the defence portfolio in the new line-up, Gen Chawalit said similar reports had emerged every time there were reports of changes to the Cabinet.

He will stick to his position of being elected before accepting any Cabinet post, he said. "We must enter (the

Government) that way. We should not seek privilege," he said. This view had strengthened following visits to many people in the countryside, he said.

The former deputy prime minister declined to comment on the conflict between the Government and the military, or the military's loss of confidence in the Government. "It is none of my business to comment. And I believe the Government will choose the best option in the public interest," he said.

Political Problems Facing Chatchai Pondered

BK1011072890 Bangkok EKKALAK in Thai 10 Nov 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Issues the Prime Minister Must Face"]

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan's pledge to the military to reshuffle the Cabinet in order to remove the Cabinet minister who was engaged in a running dispute with the military has removed fear the people had about the undesirable consequences of a dispute between the government and the military. However, the gentleman's agreement that the prime minister made with the military has generated repercussions that indicate he will face many more political problems.

First, the political party headed by the minister who is being removed has declared that the prime minister's action, which amounted to pacifying certain members of the military establishment, was wrong and has threatened to expose wrongdoing by several Cabinet ministers. This implies that the ousted minister is privy to a lot of information that is damaging to certain Cabinet ministers. This, in turn, leads to the conclusion that several Cabinet ministers, possibily including the prime minister, are dishonest.

Next, the new Cabinet reshuffle reportedly will also involve Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha, who will be made deputy prime minister. The reaction from the Chat Thai Party was that pro-Banhan members came out to publicly insist that Banhan must not be transferred from his interior minister portfolio until the end of the government's term.

Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit reportedly would also be involved in the Cabinet reshuffle. While no Social Action Party members have gone public to protect their party secretary general, party leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot has declared that regardless of how the prime minister planned to reshuffle the Cabinet, there would be no changes in Cabinet ministers from his party.

Those are the issues the prime minister must face as he carries out his gentleman's agreement with the military to reshuffle the Cabinet.

If the prime minister wants to transfer both Banhan and Montri in the upcoming Cabinet reshuffle, he will have to make his own decision independently. Or he can resign to avoid having to stay on and serve as an ex-militaryman without dignity.

Current National, Political 'Crisis' Analyzed

BK1111040090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Nov 90 p B3

[Commentary by Toemsak C. Phalanuphap: "Keeping Politicians on the Edge"]

[Text] In order to get a better idea on what's going in the government, not only do you need the ability to read newspapers between the lines and catch up on all the latest rumours, but you also need a great deal of imagination. Otherwise, how could you make any sense out of the prime minister's perennial "no problem" disposition? Or the growing concern of the military with the administration's ability to govern the country properly? Or, for that matter, PM's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung's sudden interest in retrieving the Mass Communication Organization of Thailand's (MCOT) mobile electronic spy unit from the Supreme Command?

Conflicts of interest are inevitable in every political system. Politics, after all, deals with settling the conflicts and preventing them from growing into a national crisis. Under the Chatchai administration, Thailand has seen all sorts of political conflicts: rifts inside the Chat Thai, disputes between the core government party and its partners, and a war of words between ministers and ex-army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut. But none of them were as serious as the last week's quarrel between Chaloem and Supreme Commander General Sunthon Khongsomphong.

The Chaloem-Sunthon feud became serious when Army Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun openly sided with General Sunthon, who technically is his (Suchinda's) superior. Premier "Gen Chatchai Chunhawan, on the other hand, virtually backed Chaloem by permitting Chaloem to claim that he was shielding the premier, like the husk of a bamboo shoot protecting its inner soft, edible core.

The confrontation between Chaloem and General Sunthon carried an ominous overtone when both sides started challenging each other's legitimacy and dedication to democracy. Worse still, both sides also resorted to dropping veiled threats and using euphemism to disguise their intentions.

At closer scrutiny, the premier's "no-problem" approach to all things is indeed a profound strategy. People around him friends or foes, just cannot figure him out. They cannot tell whether he is: indifferent, confused, upset, desperate, scheming, or all of the above. Outsiders, too, don't know whether the premier is really powerless inside his party or still in control; friendless in his coalition or well-liked and respected; listening to only his young policy advisers but unable to comprehend most of their advice or listening to no one at all because he believes there is "no problem."

Thus when Banhan showed his political clout by leading a group of about 70 Chat Thai MPs to oppose a plan to remove Banhan from the Interior Ministry, the premier quickly pledged to let Banhan keep the powerful interior portfolio for as long as he wishes. Moreover, he announced that Banhan would be his choice as the next party leader. Banhan's supporters applauded with delight, but the interior minister seemed confused. By naming Banhan his political successor, the premier turns Banhan into a political lightning rod. This prompted Banhan to claim that he never dreamed about "reaching for the stars" and that he would be more than happy to remain party secretary general and interior minister.

In the Chaloem-Sunthon feud, when the worst took a turn to become the worst, the premier's "no-problem" stance permitted him to deny any responsibility, like he did in the dispute between Chaloem and Banhan over police promotions in September. The analogy is: just ignore the fact that Chaloem is a minister in the PM's Office and that the premier is concurrently the defence minister—who is supposed to supervise the military.

Under growing pressure, Chaloem conceded he was ready to retreat and accept the premier's decision to drop him from a new Cabinet lineup. His position was further weakened when one Muan Chon MP revealed that his party of five MPs, led by Chaloem, would expose some Cabinet members once it is part of the Opposition. This not so subtle threat of revenge came much too late to save Chaloem. At best, it might keep some vulnerable ministers on their toes. But since Chaloem has neither confirmed nor denied the intention, he may still have the element of surprise on his side if and when he wants to turn against the Chatchai administration.

True to their military tradition, both Generals Sunthon and Suchinda would not discuss their intentions should the premier fail to placate them. "Soldiers never divulge the details of their offensive plan before an attack," says General Suchinda who is a recognized top strategist. But he notes that it will be "real bad" if the Chatchai administration loses military support.

General Sunthon, who spent most of military career leading combat units, is blunt. "I love military honour more than my life. I'll not stand anyone trampling on our honour," he tells a group of his subordinates.

Still it is unclear what the supreme commander and his uniformed brothers intend to do if they "lose faith" in the premier.

Chaloem has challenged them to sue him and the MCOT if they have evidence to implicate him or the state enterprise for allegedly eavesdropping and interfering in military communications with the controversial mobile spy unit last June. The Supreme Command says it will do just as Chaloem wants. A major general of the Special Warfare Centre, in a circular letter to newspapers, calls Chaloem a "dirty sick dog" and adds that politicians like him deserve no respect. Military-run radio programmes compares him to a "toad," a "rabid dog," a "lizard," etc. Apart from suing Chaloem and giving him no respect, what else will the military do?

The top brass can boycott the weekly Wednesday breakfast meeting with the premier at his private residence. They can also encourage more senators to join the Opposition in calling for an extraordinary parliamentary session to grill the Cabinet on corruption. But there is no guarantee that opposition leaders will mount a vigorous attack since they are so susceptible to misleading promises of government leaders to join a new Cabinet.

All military officers who have been appointed senators can resign en-masse to show their displeasure with the administration. Better still some key military figures, including General Sunthon himself, can quit and join their ex-boss Chawalit's New Aspiration Party in a direct political challenge to the government coalition in the next general election.

However, militarymen are no quitters. They are trained to have patience and discipline; they would rather wait for a better chance than quit. This is why the military is anxiously waiting for the one millionth anti-government letter from the general public before taking any drastic action. But what action?

The military isn't going to let the premier see, much less read, these protest letters and find out what the people have to say about his administration and what needs to be done. The military has consistently declined to share intelligence information with the administration. This in turn has made the premier and his men rather anxious and curious about what the military actually knew and what they were actually up to, especially when coup fears were riding high in the administration like that in last June following the protest resignation of Chawalit as defence minister and deputy premier.

Without the military intelligence and without the top brass telling him what went wrong in his administration and in the country, the premier will be in a more vulnerable position. He won't be able to tell who is corrupt and who is clean. More seriously still, he won't have any excuse to drop anyone from the Cabinet or kick anyone upstairs. This must be real scary to the premier.

Being kept in the dark is something he already got used to after two years in office. But not knowing what to do next is intolerable. Though he sees "no problem," he still appreciates the comfort of knowing what he must do in order to safeguard his political survival and protect his world from falling apart.

Unfortunately, booting out Chaloem will not help the premier regain complete support of the military. General Sunthon says it will only satisfy the men in uniforms "up to a certain extent."

The general and his colleagues have "advised" the premier on the next course of action,which reportedly involves promoting Banhan and Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit to the largely ceremonial posts of deputy premier.

The premier likes to comply. But Banhan and Montri say they are not good at presiding over public ceremonies. Montri's protector M.R. Khukrit Pramot, leader of the Social Action Party, is adamant that the premier must consult him before moving any SAP ministers anywhere.

Of course the premier would listen to anyone who, rather than urging him to resign or dissolve the House, could tell him what to do should the military stop giving their "advice" and send him an ultimatum instead.

Khukrit: No Reshuffle in Social Action Party

BK1011010290 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Interview with Leader of the Social Action Party Major General M.R. Khukrit Pramot by an unidentified correspondent; place and date not given—recorded; first paragraph is announcer's introduction]

[Text] In the wake of a pledge made by Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan that he would reshuffle the cabinet after returning from Japan, Major General M.R. Khukrit Pramot, leader of the Social Action Party, emphasized that there would be no change concerning the cabinet ministers in his party. On the possibility of General Chawalit Yongchaiyut being named to fill a vacancy in the cabinet, Khukrit said he supports Gen. Chawalit.

[Khukrit] I am the leader of the Social Action Party, not Chatchai. Therefore he must ask me first about changes in my party. I have the power, not Chatchai, to reshuffle within the Social Action Party.

[Correspondent] There was a report that Minister Montri would be made a deputy minister. Would that be possible?

[Khukrit] This is pure fabrication. It is not true. The rumor about Banhan is also not true. Why should Montri be transfered? Is it because he is not liked by the military? Well, they like each other. They play golf together everyday.

[Correspondent] Is there any possibility that Gen. Chawalit may join the cabinet?

[Khukrit] There are all kinds of opportunities. [Laughter] It is up to the prime minister, and up to Gen. Chawalit.

[Correspondent] Would you oppose it, personally, if Gen. Chawalit were to rejoin the cabinet?

[Khukrit] Why on earth should I oppose him! I am fond of Chawalit. This is true. I was fond of him, even before he became Army commander, and there is no reason for me to oppose him. Let him be whatever he wishes to be. It's his business. If he accepts the offer of a cabinet position, that is good, If he does not want it, it is up to him. I have never been at odds with Gen. Chawalit. I swear it. I have only been watching him with concern. We are friends, and I am afraid that he might be misunderstood by others. I have never thought of becoming his enemy.

[Correspondent] Concerning the opposition's move to have the prime minister dissolve the parliament, what do you think about it?

[Khukrit] Well, in short, no parliamentarians would ever wish to see the parliament dissolved because that means we will have to go through the election campaigning again. We will have to spend money for campaigning again. We would be exhausted once again, and there is a chance that we might not be elected this time. Sincerely speaking, none of us want the parliament to be dissolved. In theory, those people may say whatever they want. But sincerely speaking, none of them want to see the parliament dissolved.

Tension Continues Over Demonstration Ban

BK1411022390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Nov 90 p A1

[Text] Political tension reached a high point yesterday following a ban by Army Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun on rallies around Government House and the appearance of an anonymous leaflet urging the public to resist what it called a "silent coup" by the military.

The leaflet also called on Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan to sack Suchinda and Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, labelling them "rebels against democracy" and "dictatorial soldiers."

Suchinda, exercising his powers as head of the Capital Security Command, issued the ban late Monday night to "pre-empt an attempt to cause unrest" through a rally at Government House. It was the first time that a commander of capital security had invoked his powers under a law promulgated by the administration of Thanin Kraiwichian following the October 6, 1976 blood-bath.

The army chief said the order, which caused brisk selling at the Securities Exchange of Thailand towards the end of the session yesterday, would stand until Premier Chatchai returned from China on Sunday.

The order prompted criticism from a group of Chat Thai MPs who questioned whether it ran counter to the Constitution, which guarantees a right to assembly. Suchinda suggested that he did not care much about the criticism. "It's fine if they disagree on the matter, but the order will stay until the premier's return," he said.

In the order, signed at 11 pm on Monday and announced yesterday, Gen Suchinda said the measure was necessary because the Capital Security Command had learnt that a group of people had planned to stage a "politically motivated" rally to cause unrest at Government House.

The order was attached to a map showing the area around Government House which would be off-limits to rallies.

Riot police squads of 10 troopers each were posted at five key areas around Government House and at the Marble Temple opposite the Capital Security Command headquarters yesterday morning.

The army chief claimed the order would not curb the authority of the government but added that nobody could revoke it because he was acting on the mandate of the National Security commander, Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong.

Suchinda told reporters he also had the consent of acting premier Pramuan Saphawasu in taking the contingency measures. Pramuan, the first deputy premier, is serving as premier during Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's visit to Japan and China.

The order prompted a rally of about 30 labour unionists from the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA) to disperse. The unionists had gathered at Government House to register a protest against a call by minibus operators to increase bus fares.

PM's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung had earlier called off a plan by his supporters from Buri Ram and Bangkok's Nong Khaem district to rally at Government House and air their support for him after an army uproar prompted the premier to pledge that Chaloem would be dropped in the upcoming Cabinet reshuffle.

Pramuan said the ban on rallies around Government House was an "appropriate" measure to ensure law and order.

Pramuan said Suchinda, in his capacity as Capital Security commander, met him at dawn yesterday to explain the reasons for issuing the order late Monday night. "Foreigners may see it as drastic action but I don't think it is. Gen Suchinda's move was appropriate because he has to take care of peace and security in the capital. There are more advantages to the move than disadvantages," Pramuan said.

The acting premier said that he had left it to Suchinda to decide when to lift the ban.

Pramuan said that Suchinda had informed Premier Chatchai and Supreme Commander Sunthon of the move in advance. But Suchinda told reporters that he did not get in touch with the premier. Suchinda said that he did not want to "bypass" the acting premier.

PM's Office Secretary General Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong, meanwhile, declined to comment on the order, saying that he had not been informed of it and was not in a position to comment. Wanchai said he did not expect any untoward incidents.

Government spokesman Suwit Yotmani was reserved in commenting on the army's move, saying just that the government had nothing to do with the order but that the military probably had more information about security matters than the government. He added that the situation appeared calm to him, and that he expected the ban to be lifted after Premier Chatchai returns from China over the weekend.

Suwit evaded the question on how the order would affect the government's standing, but added: "We have all along tried to preserve democracy, and so we have to let various interested groups, civilian or military, express their views, because they are all Thai people."

Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha, meanwhile, sought to downplay the implications of the army's move. "The military move will do more good than harm. And it's fine with me that the military mobilized the police force," the minister said.

Bangkok Governor Maj Gen Chamlong Simuang noted that the Capital Security Command has the authority to maintain peace and order, particularly during the premier's absence. He said the ban should not be taken as a crackdown on freedom of expression and would not affect the upcoming Bangkok by-election scheduled for Nov 25.

Commerce Minister's Economic Speech Viewed

BK1111032890 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Nov 90 p B3

[Editorial: "Amaret's Green Vision"]

[Text] As he spoke on Wednesday night, a slide showing people on a golfing green was projected on to the screen behind Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on.

In the next decade or two, he said, Thailand will need to transfer the 60 percent of its labour force currently employed in agriculture to other sectors.

"Service industry looks like the best candidate to absorb this huge labour pool. Wholesale and retail trade, leisure business (including golf courses and resort areas), medical and professional services, banking, insurance, financial services, telecommunications and transport, information services, repair and maintenance, etc, will pull Thailand into the next century and on to another plane of development," Amaret read out.

The implied suggestion that Thailand's farmers might be better employed as golf course green keepers or caddies was the lowest point of his first public policy statement since taking office two months ago. But Amaret was right in his pessimistic view for the future of much of agriculture even if some of the things he said revealed that this sector is not one of his strengths.

The real value of his speech was his rejection of the politically expedient but economically unsound measures commerce ministers normally feel compelled to adopt.

Price controls don't work, he more-or-less said. Nor do agricultural subsidies, even if "tens of millions of unorganized, under-privileged, ill-educated masses of farmers" need government assistance to increase their bargaining power against "well- educated, shrewd and superbly organized groups of a few thousand merchants".

And when advocating improved storage facilities for farm produce, Amaret refrained from mentioning his ministry's highly inefficient and corruption-prone Public Warehouse Organization.

The key to his policy was competition: in price, quality and services provided. This would protect consumers against profiteering and unfair trade practices, advance the country's export performance, and help farmers receive a decent price for their produce.

It was not riveting oratory. Amaret read his script slowly and soberly. But for a Thai commerce minister, the message was almost revolutionary.

The speech was also an intriguing blend. As a non-elected politician, Amaret was free from the need to impress an electorate with unwise promises of Commerce Ministry intervention and largesse. For this, he has already been criticized by some of elected MPs.

On the other hand, certain aspects of the speech were highly political, such as the emphasis on the needs of farmers, the slogans—"I believe in the future of Thailand", and the claim that the fundamental business ideology in Thailand is "free trade and fair play"—and the computerized visuals that accompanied his speech as if he were rehearsing for an American-style party political convention.

His strength was in the area he knows best: industry. At the risk of contradicting himself, Amaret soon admitted that in Thailand free trade "is more of an economic philosophy than economic reality".

Monopoly or oligopoly are more often the case, he said. He blamed excessive government protection, the need for heavy investment in some industries and exploitation of patent protection in advanced technology.

The worst offenders, he said, are the infrastructure industries: cement, power generation, transport and communications, etc. "Many other industries are highly protected (because of) our efforts to industrialize in the 1960s through import substitution policy."

But when it came to spelling out policies, he did not always carry the logic of his arguments through. It is therefore still unclear what Amaret plans to do with some of the worst-offending monopolies and oligopolies. If, for example, protectionist import substitution is one of the most serious ills of the economy, then the Commerce Ministry should be playing a key role in lowering the barriers set up against car imports. Amaret did not discuss this at all.

And when he was asked afterwards about liberalizing the cement industry—the sector in which he attained most of his executive experience—Amaret said it would be improper for him to comment on policies concerned with licensing new plants because this is the responsibility of the industry ministry.

In both cases, he was yielding to a stronger political reality, and with some justification because other ministers are involved. Amaret will need to be able to balance political reality with economic prudence if he is to be an effective commerce minister. But he will also need to be liberated from the constant demands of crisis management that he says has dominated his first ten weeks in office—"to settle cement shortage, rice and tapioca exports, alleged rising prices of basic foodstuffs and household products and the rumoured sugar hoarding".

Above all, particularly because of the emphasis he puts on preserving the interests of farmers, he will need to take a closer look at the rural economy, where there is more competition than he suggested in his speech, and where farmers have to have better choices than working on golf courses.

In one respect at least, he has an advantage over his predecessors. He is starting his tenure with no illusions about the wisdom of using subsidies and compulsion to regulate the economy. But as he admitted on Wednesday, he has no idea how long he will remain in office.

Vietnam

Paper Questions Dispatch of U.S. Troops to Gulf

BK1411085290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 13 Nov 90

[From the Press Review]

[Text] On the international front, NHAN DAN today features a commentary entitled: "Why Has Washington Sent More than 400,000 Troops to the Gulf?" After reviewing the military buildup of the United States and its allies in the Persian Gulf and U.S. officials' feverish activities to isolate Iraq and pave the way for war against that country, NHAN DAN points out: The dispatch by the Pentagon of an additional large military force to the Gulf runs counter to the efforts of many countries that are seeking to resolve the crisis.

Japan's Decision Not To Send Troops 'Opportune'

BK1011012990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 5 Nov 90

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 5 November Commentary: "An Opportune Decision"]

[Text] The Japanese Government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party have been compelled to renounce their scheme of ratifying the Draft Law on UN Cooperation and Peace at the current session of the Japanese Diet.

Public opinion in northeast Asia, the world, and Japan itself has unanimously considered it an opportune decision, demonstrating that the Tokyo ruling circles cannot turn their backs on reality and run counter to the trend of the era.

As everyone knows, on 16 October the Japanese Cabinet presented the draft law on UN cooperation and peace to the 119th Provisional Diet for debate. The key point of this draft law is the establishment of a UN league of cooperation and peace of Japan, allowing Japan to join other countries in deploying a task force to the Persian Gulf. The Japanese prime minister will be commander in chief and chief of the Defense Department equivalent to the position of a defense minister, while the foreign minister will be deputy commander in chief of this task force group. The group will be composed of personnel strength taken from among the three naval, infantry, and air forces and will be armed.

The draft law on UN cooperation and peace not only reflects Washington's pressure on Japan to share the global military burden and paves the way for the Japanese Government to send its troops overseas, but also indicates the tendency toward intensifying the political and military roles of Japan in the international arena.

Forty-five years ago the Japanese militarists were dealt a fatal blow, a defeat in World War II, and collapsed. Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution stipulates that Japan permanently abolishes the state right to wage war, renounces the use of force to settle international disputes, and will not maintain naval, infantry, and air forces as well as other forces of war.

Even though 45 years have elapsed, the militaristic buds are still living and trying to rear up their heads. A few forces in Japan still want it to have great military strength equivalent to its huge economic potential. According to MODERN MILITARY REVIEW No 8, 1989, in July 1983 the Japanese Government clearly indicated the need to intensify Japan's right to speak in the international arena. Then, in July 1988, the Strategic Research Center of Japan raised the question of making national defense a foremost priority of national policy. The limit of less than one percent of gross national product, which had been imposed on national defense expenses, was abolished by the 24 January 1987 statement of the Japanese Government. Japan's national defense expenses for 1987 accounted for more than 1.004 percent of the gross national product and totalled about $US22 billion. They are now up to $US30 billion or more.

By proposing a draft law on UN cooperation and peace, the Japanese Cabinet aimed in fact to legalize Tokyo's plan to build its Armed Forces and send its troops overseas. This runs counter to the Japanese people's aspirations. As a result, the opposition parties and people of Japan have stirred up a strong protest movement. Mrs. Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Socialist Party, the largest opposition party, holds that this draft law outlines the plan for sending troops overseas under the hypocritical label of a peace-keeping force. This clearly violates the Constitution.

From the afternoon of 17 October to the morning of 18 October, hundreds of Japanese students were demonstrating in Tokyo to start the protest movement. On 19 October hundreds of people demonstrated in front of Japan's lower house headquarters. On 21 October the chairman of the Socialist Party led a parade of 23,000 people to protest the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's attempt to ratify a bill authorizing the sending of Japanese Defense Agency personnel to the Gulf area. Also on 21 October, at the Meiji public square, the Japanese Communist Party organized a 15,000-person demonstration to oppose the bill.

The Japanese Government and the ruling party had to step back, but their decision to abandon their scheme to ratify the draft law on UN cooperation and peace does not mean that the militaristic trend in Japan will not develop in the future. Yet, the trend of detente that is developing in the world and the struggle for peace and security that is developing strongly in Japan have attested to the truth that the Tokyo ruling circles cannot propose nor press for the ratification of dangerous decisions.

Public opinion expects that Japan, with its enormous economic potential, can play a significant role in promoting friendly cooperation in the Asia-Pacific area.

Soviet Ambassador's Statement on Anniversary

BK1011065790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 6 Nov 90

[Statement by Soviet Ambassador to Vietnam Rashit L. Khamidulin to mark the 73d anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution]

[Summary] "Dear Vietnamese Friends: Today is the 73d anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution [GSOR]. Our people together with friends all over the world commemorate the birth of the Soviet nation."

The vital significance of this event lies in the fact that it has laid the foundation for building equality and social justice, enabling the people of all strata to master their own life. Although the Soviet people have won great victories, they also have made mistakes. Now, our duty is to understand thoroughly Lenin's practical viewpoints on socialism.

Various fundamental and profound reforms are being carried out in the Soviet society. Our country is entering the stage of market-oriented economic relations to give workers the initiative in production, increase productivity, and raise the living standards for the people. "A treaty is being prepared for our federation to carry out reforms." Progress, however, is taking place amidst complicated political and economic conditions. "As a result, our main task now is to persevere to normalize the political and socioeconomic situation, protect socialist ideals and the general values of all mankind, and finally defend the GSOR ideologies."

We have acted along the lines of the 28th CPSU congress and the various resolutions of the congress and the CPSU Central Committee. "The Soviet Union has formulated a new political thinking and the new policy of international relations to join positively the common process of seeking mutual understanding among countries and nations and various ways to shape up a civilized society to ensure and consolidate peace on our planet."

Our new foreign policy of restructuring has attracted responsible forces in the world. Regarding the Asia-Pacific area, "we are pleased to realize that positive changes are taking place in this region, and we can surely say the process of these changes is progressing well." Among these changes are the multilateral efforts to settle the Cambodian conflict. "Here, we must particularly stress that the close bilateral Soviet-Vietnamese relations continue to be one of the most important factors in keeping the situation in Southeast Asia healthy." Our friendship born of the GSOR has become a firm foundation for mutual understanding and trust.

"We are aware of our duty to consolidate continually this friendship and develop economic and technological cooperation with Vietnam to constantly raise the material and cultural living standards of the laboring people in the two countries."

On this occasion, we would like to express our conviction that we have sincere and loyal friends in Southeast Asia.

"Dear Vietnamese listeners: Allow me to wish you good health, happiness, and prosperity. Thank you."

Army Journal Marks Revolution Anniversary

BK1011050690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 5 Nov 90

[Unattributed article in the November 1990 issue of TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN: "The Path of the October Revolution Is the Concept of Life and the Law of History"]

[Text] The 73d anniversary of the Great Russian October Revolution comes when the imperialist and reactionary forces are delighting in their prediction that the 1917 tragedy will be over by the year 2017, for on that year socialism in the Soviet Union will, according to them, be eliminated and the mistake in history will be corrected.

The restructuring in the Soviet Union is experiencing unprecedented ordeals and difficulties. Socialist countries in East Europe are facing a comprehensively serious crisis and a fierce capitalist offensive in an area extending from West Europe to North America. On other continents, the process of socialist renewal and perfection is taking place in a number of countries with both successes and difficulties. Progressive mankind, especially the world revolutionary force, is concerned about the path of the October Revolution and about the destiny of socialism both at present and in the future. Is socialism really in its death throes, as alleged by the imperialists, or is it experiencing growing pains while entering a new stage of development?

As everyone knows, the Russian proletariat and laboring people did not choose the socialist path just by chance. The October Revolution came as an objective inevitability after Russia had gone through the 1905 Revolution and the February 1917 Bourgeois Revolution and had rejected other paths charted by various groups, such as the populist faction, the democratic socialist revolutonaries, and the Kadets group.

The genius Lenin and the glorious Bolshevik Party had led the successful "10 Days That Shook The World" revolution, which was quite suitable to the history of Russia and the European trend of development at that time.

The observation made by Engels in 1882 on the vanguard role of Russia in the European revolutionary movement and his prediction about the proletarian revolution in that country had been ascertained. The path of the October Revolution has been tested in the hard reality of life right in its own homeland over the past two-thirds of the century. It was the real life and not resolutions and artistic works which had accepted the great successes of this unprecedented revolution while eliminating its unorthodoxy. Time is the most impartial witness of these developments.

One should admit that thanks to socialism, the Soviet people were able to write many glorious pages of their history and the Russian workers and peasants able to shrug off the shackles of the authoritarian regime to become masters of a country whose area accounts for one-sixth of the earth's surface. Russia, Europe's poorest and most backward country, has been upgraded to the position of superpower in the community of various countries and peoples on this planet. The powerful socialist state has survived and developed in the middle of a sea of capitalists and imperialists and has foiled many of their brutal and bloody attacks.

From the first socialist country in Lenin's homeland, socialism took shape and developed into an international system rallying under various forms and to various extents over 100 countries which had just been saved from the system of the capitalist world. Both the first satellite and the first man in space came from the homeland of (Sione Kautsky). The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has become a reliable, firm prop of all progressive mankind in the cause of independence, freedom, welfare, democracy, and peace. Let us ask: Is there any country or people in history capable of attaining many achievements of global significance in such a short period of time?

Life has not only effusivly praised and promoted these wonderful things but has also straightforwardly exposed the following weaknesses and shortcomings of realistic socialism in many socialist countries, including one at the center of socialism—the great Soviet Union: Slow production has led to economic recession, the laboring people's lives are still beset with numerous difficulties, the state apparatus continues to display its infamous bureaucratic practice of staying aloof from the people, socialist democracy has not been developed, the people's right to mastery has been gravely violated, and the command-based administrative method has been turned into a prevalent management and supervision system of the party and the state. All these have considerably damaged the superiority of socialism. These tragic things have also seriously damaged the foundation on which the advanced socialist regime is liberating the production force or in another sense, liberating mankind.

There have been tendencies to exaggerate the relative independent characteristics of production relations, to fail to firmly grasp the law of harmony between production relations and production forces, to absolutize the roles of the political revolution and of political institutions in relations with the economic revolution and the economic law, and to show a disregard for the objective law which has led to subjective and willful manifestations. Are they the root causes of the unworthy pages in the history of realistic socialism?

History has charted a path for itself. Mankind has entered a new era—the era in which mankind has switched from capitalism to socialism and then communism with the October Revolution as a starting point. This is an economic inevitability which comes from within the internal development of capitalism and not from anyone else's subjective will.

Bourgeois economic thinkers have brought up ideas about socialism since the period between the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century when capitalism was developing vigorously. Among these thinkers were Fourier, Frank Simon, and Robert Owen whom Karl Marx called the genuine fathers of socialism. Karl Marx and Engels had turned utopist socialism into scientific socialism on the basis of making an analytic assessment of the economic law of capitalism. He said that the development of heavy industry had destroyed the very foundation on which the bourgeoisie had built its system of production and proprietorship. The collapse of the bourgeoisie and the triumph of the proletariat were all an inevitability.

This objective inevitability has been ascertained: Socialism is also a choice of emotion and wisdom and a thirst for liberation with the superiorities of it already becoming reality in the land of the Soviet Union, thus promoting the capability to materialize this thirst among the peoples of various nations. It should be noted, however, that to get into the mainstream of history, each nation must choose for itself a path suitable to its conditions.

Experience obtained in the existence and growth of realistic socialism over the past 70 years shows that there can be no general or single pattern for every nation to advance toward socialism. The Declaration of Communism reminded the proletariat throughout the world that measures to abolish the system of ownership and the bourgeois production relations in different countries are, of course, substantially different. That is why many countries and peoples—regardless of where they are, be they in industrialized and civilized Europe or in agrarian Asia rich in natural resources; in the dynamic and advanced Americas or in the wilderness of Africa with many options still open—can still build socialism with their own wisdom and their revolutionary creativity by their own ways once historic conditions are ripe. The imposition of copy-catting, the tendency to exaggerate the particular characteristics of certain countries, and particularism [chur nghiax bieetj phais] will all lead to a disassociation from socialism.

The Vietnamese people and communists are firmly convinced that socialism will be able to overcome its crisis in the advance toward a new stage of development. The test that socialism stood through the reality of life and the law of history has pointed out this inevitable trend.

Enlightened by the revolutionary thoughts of President Ho Chi Minh, the socialist renovation undertaking in Vietnam is continuing to pursue the path charted by the Russian October Revolution.

Nguyen Van Linh Receives New Soviet Ambassador

BK1011022590 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 9—Nguyen Van Linh, secretary general of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, received here this morning the new Soviet Ambassador to Vietnam, R.L. Khamidulin.

During the reception, the party leader wished the Soviet diplomat success in his noble mission, this contributing to strengthening and developing the time-honoured friendship and multi-faceted cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

After informing his guest of the present process of renovation in the country, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh expressed sincere thanks to the Communist Party, the government and people of the Soviet Union for their great and effective support and assistance to the Vietnamese revolution. He reaffirmed Vietnam's determination to constantly strengthen its friendship, solidarity and comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union. He wished that the Soviet Communists and people would surmount all difficulties and trials and succeed in their socialist restructuring.

For his part, the Soviet Ambassador briefed Nguyen Van Linh about the process of perestroyka in his country and the tasks set forth for the Communist Party and government of the Soviet Union at present. He said he would do his best for the promotion and development of the close relations and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries.

Ministry Opens 'Days of Soviet Films' in Hanoi

BK1011090390 Hanoi VNA in English 0720 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 10—"Days of Soviet Films" have been opened here by the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Tourism, the Vietnam Film Export Import and Distribution Corporation (Fafim) and the Central Video No. 1 on the occasion of the 73rd anniversary of the October Revolution.

The inauguration was attended by Vu Khac Lien, vice minister of culture, information, sports and tourism and Voronin, minister counsellor to the Soviet Embassy and a visiting Soviet film delegation.

Council Issues Communique on 12-13 Nov Meeting

BK1411155790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Nov 90

[Council of State Communique; date not given]

[Text] On 12-13 November, the Council of State met under its chairman Vo Chi Cong.

1. After hearing a report of the Council of Ministers' representative and a statement by the representative of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee on a draft regulation on consular affairs, the Council of State discussed and adopted this regulation.

The regulation on consular affairs defines the organization and activities of SRV consulates in foreign countries. It is an important legal document aimed at protecting the rights and interests of the Vietnamese state, Vietnamese citizens, and workers living abroad. It also aims to contribute to strengthening friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and other countries in the world.

2. The Council of State heard the Council of Ministers representative's report on the Draft Law on General Education Level I, the Draft Law on Children, and the Draft Law on Forests. It also heard viewpoints on these draft laws presented by representatives of the Culture and Education Committee; the Committee for Youth, Teenagers, and Children; and the Science and Technology Committee of the National Assembly. The Council of State contributed some ideas to these draft laws and assigned the Council of Ministers' law drafting committees and standing committees of the National Assembly to perfect these three draft laws for submission to the National Assembly at its forthcoming session.

3. In the implementation of its inspection work, the Council of State heard state investigative teams report on the socioeconomic situation of a number of highland districts of Ha Tuyen and Quang Binh Provinces and on the implementation of the social welfare policy for workers in Hau Giang, Vinh Phu, Nghe Tinh, Ha Nam Ninh Provinces, and Ho Chi Minh City. It also heard a report on the implementation of the law on organization of the People's Councils and People's Committees and on regulation on the organization and activities of People's Councils echelons in Haiphong Municipality and the provinces of Dong Nai and Song Be. The Council of State commended the people and adminstration echelons in these provinces for their efforts in overcoming difficulties and in creatively accelerating production and business by relying on local potential, thereby scoring achievements in their 1990 socioeconomic development plan. It also commended them for gradually stabilizing the deople's daily life and for having initially enhanced the effectiveness of state organs of authority in localities. The Council of State accepted proposals made by the various provinces and assigned the Council of Ministers and responsible sectors at the central level to find measures within the framework of their authority to help these localities resolve some pressing issues raised by state investigation teams.

4. The Council of State has decided to appoint a number of judges to the Supreme People's Court and to the military courts at the military region and zone levels.

Essay Views Youths' 'Doubts' About Communism

BK1011055590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 2 Nov 90

[Essay by Hung Cuong: "Our Party's Performance as Seen by Young People"]

[Text] Many young people inside and outside the Army have expressed their doubts about our party and about the socialist ideal for which our party is struggling. Some of them asked: In a number of socialist countries, the communist parties are now no longer the ruling parties. The socialist path along which the peoples in these countries were traveling for nearly half a century had to be left unfinished. Thus, is Marxism-Leninism at this juncture obsolete? Others raised the question: Even those countries that had long pursued the socialist path had to abandon it halfway. What about our country? What direction will the revolutionary course take? What is the goal of our country's future course? Some people raised such questions in their exchange of views about the reasons for the crumbling of communism to jointly assert and consolidate their revolutionary thoughts and actions. Such exchanges of views are necessary and need to be frequently held. This is because every time such an exchange of views takes place, it will help us to remain calm and look squarely at the actual situation of our country to jointly overcome all ordeals and difficulties, thus contributing to moving the revolution forward.

Also proceeding from these doubts, some people have seen the crumbling and the temporary setbacks of the revolution in certain countries as an inevitable pattern, reasoning that their country will have to follow. Even worse, some people have raised numerous assumptions in a merciless fashion to negate the gains of our party-led revolution, for which our people have sacrificed untold flesh and blood.

They have raised many rude and illogical hypothetical questions that lack historical support needed for each particular revolutionary stage. For instance, they said: Had Marxism not been imported into Vietnam and had the country been left entirely dependent on the French colonialists, our country would have been much better by now. Had it not been for the August 1945 Revolution and the nine-year resistance against the French, the people would have been saved from the bloodshed, and the country would have been better by now. There were also other questions such as: Was it necessary to conduct the decades-long anti-U.S. struggle which was fraught with hardships? Many countries that did not need to start a fight but did so anyway were able to achieve national unification. Numerous hypothetical questions like that continue to be raised in a sarcastic and indignant manner by ungrateful people to deny history. Then they chime in with a chorus against the party, against socialism, and against the interests of the people in our beloved fatherland.

What is encouraging is that in the face of such ideas expressed by a handful of people, a large number of our young people have cautiously examined, pondered, and criticized these ideas, trying not to allow them to influence their manners of thought and perception or their actions.

Among the young people, it is not the case that no one is allowing his ardent enthusiasm to be exploited and his actions to be misguided by these evil ideas. Therefore, it is important that we—those people of the same age group and same generation who have grown up after many years of suffering and dehumanization because of losing the country and after enduring many extremely long and hard yet exceptionally glorious wars—must attentively and painstakingly listen to good advice. Let us listen to historical lessons at schools, to advice left behind by our forefathers in textbooks, to proverbs, poems, and old sayings, to the advice of those people in the preceding generations who are still alive and who can teach us good and reasonable things, and to our friends during class hours or during youth meetings. We must listen attentively to this advice so we can apply it in the present and worthily take up the existing tradition of the nation, the people, the party, and the youth union.

Do you have doubts about developments in the world? You are not to be blamed. Doubts granted, we must realize that by abandoning the revolutionary path halfway, the parties in these countries have first and foremost lost one of their sacred rights—the right to lead the revolution. The reason for the loss of this right is that the parties in these countries have failed to constantly consolidate themselves, thus leading to a situation in which the party remains aloof from the people and from the ideal goal to be achieved. Not less importantly, a large number of the people, mainly members of the younger generation, have had illusions about a more fruitful life dependent on outside assistance. It is because of this that they have been exploited and incited to negate the past and turn their back on the present and have, in the end, been left with facing a precarious future for their nations.

Aware of this fact, we will gradually eliminate our doubts to observe our country's present situation if we are to join forces in dealing with what is wrong and asserting what is right—those past and present achievements scored by many generations of Vietnamese people since the day our party came into existence and assummed the role of leadership over the revolution.

Do you have doubts about the fact the party in one area or another is exposing the weaknesses of its prominent party members? You are not to be blamed because in reality, there have been party members and government cadres abusing the name of the party and the state to commit wrongful acts. They have finally succumbed to the temptation of money and even women, thus smearing the name of the party and the state.

We feel great pain when we look at these people. They should not be regarded as representatives of the party and state nor representatives of the regime. This pain, however, should not make us confused to the point of forgetting our proud tradition, which should be preserved and developed. It is a tradition of militant solidarity under the party leadership that, dating back to the spring of 1930, still lasts to the present national renovation undertaking. The purpose of renovation is to achieve independence, freedom, territorial integrity, prosperity, happiness, and social justice. At this juncture, the party is firm on its socialist goal and determined to purify the party and state apparatus, as well as to ameloriate social relations with the drastic anticorruption struggle at its core.

Alongside these efforts, our party and state are striving to eradicate the root causes of corruption, namely the irrationalities in the socioeconomic management mechanism and the actual pay of those working within the appratuses of the party, state, and various mass organizations. Rescuing a country from difficulties can in no way be done overnight. This fact requires our young people to remain calm and confident.

New Labor Agreement Reached With CSFR

BK1311145990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 9 Nov 90

[Unattributed 9 November QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Article: "New Points in the Vietnam-Czechoslovak Labor Cooperation"]

[Summary] "A ministerial-level conference was held in Hanoi from 17 to 19 October to discuss labor cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the CSFR in the new situation. On the basis of the socioeconomic changes in the CSFR, both sides agreed to continue bilateral labor cooperation in the new situation as follows:

"Vietnamese workers at economic agencies in the CSFR will be allowed to complete their work contracts despite the fact the labor treaty signed between the two countries on 27 November 1980 and its 6 April 1989 amendment protocol will expire on 31 December 1990.

"Repatriation plans for Vietnamese workers who completed their work contracts will be discussed and agreed upon by the CSFR Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the SRV Embassy in the CSFR.

"When CSFR enterprises cannot provide enough jobs for Vietnamese workers, they have to transfer the workers to other establishments in accordance with the CSFR labor law and in conformity with the labor treaty. Enterprises that want Vietnamese workers to do jobs other than those mentioned in the work contracts or who want to transfer them to other establishments, must seek consensus from the Labor Ministry and the Vietnamese Embassy in the CSFR."

In cases of work termination due to change in production organization by CSFR enterprises, the following measures will be taken:

—CSFR enterprises must inform the Vietnamese workers in writing at least three months before the termination of their employment. Enterprises must ensure that Vietnamese workers can stay at their places until the day of their departure and that these enterprises must comply with the agreement on sending Vietnamese workers' property home and pay all the expenses on their repatriation.

—If the termination of work is done five months before the expiration of the work contracts, the Vietnamese workers are entitled to a five-month severance pay in accordance with the current CSFR labor law. Workers whose remaining work period is longer than five months will be transferred to other enterprises to complete their job. If the nature of their work is changed, the Vietnamese workers will be trained to do the new job in accordance with the current CSFR law.

—In case the termination of work is needed for any other reasons, the CSFR Ministry of Labor will seek consensus from the SRV Embassy in the CSFR before taking action.

—Vietnamese citizens who were trained in CSFR specialized vocational schools will be provided jobs in accordance with the SRV-CSFR agreement signed on 21 December 1979. In case jobs are not available for them, these Vietnamese citizens will be repatriated to Vietnam, and the CSFR will bear all travel expenses.

VNA Reports Opening of Bureau in Tokyo

BK1011154690 Hanoi VNA in English 1446 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 10—Vietnam News Agency (VNA) officially opened its bureau in Tokyo and established a two-way communication line with KYODO News Service (KNS) of Japan on Nov. 8.

Earlier, Do Phuong, VNA director general, and Shinji Sakai, KNS president, had discussed measures to broaden their relations and improve the quality of telecommunications between the two agencies. Vietnamese Ambassador to Japan Vo Van Sung was present at these meetings.

On Nov. 9, Do Phuong and Shinji Sakai were received by Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama. He expressed his satisfaction at the new step in the development of bilateral relations following Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's visit to Japan in October last. The Japanese foreign minister welcomed the installation of the communication line between the two news agencies and expresed Japan's desire to continue broadening cooperation in communications with Vietnam, and the exchange of students and trainees between the two countries.

Company Plans Joint Venture With Indonesia

BK1011084990 Hanoi VNA in English 0733 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 10—The Saigon General Services Company in Ho Chi Minh City (Savico) and Pt. Pada of Indonesia have entered into a joint venture for assembling and marketing motorcycles in Vietnam.

Under the contract, Pt. Pada will deliver to Savico parts of 2,600 motocycles of the Honda, Suzuki and Hatsuda companies to be assembled with Indonesian-supplied equipment and technicians. In return, Savico will supply Pada with construction stone, timber and farm products, and arts and craft items.

This is the first step toward the installation of a motorcycle manufacturing plan in Vietnam.

Radio Outlines Doan Khue's Visit to India

BK1111065890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] During its visit to India, the Vietnamese military delegation led by General Doan Khue, vice minister of national defense and chief of the General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army, visited a number of military units, academies, and defense industrial establishments in various regions and southern cities of India.

On 6 November, the delegation visited a paratrooper brigade in the military region 200 kms from New Delhi. Lieutenant General (Tonakar), chief of staff of the military region, and other high-ranking officers warmly welcomed and briefed the delegation on the situation and tasks of the region. The delegation also attended a combat operation show performed by the paratroopers. General Doan Khue commended the paratroopers for their professional training. The delegation also visited the Taj Mahal in the famous tourist city of Agra.

On 9 November, Indian Vice President Shankar Dayal Sharma cordially received the Vietnamese military delegation. The vice president warmly welcomed the visit to India by the delegation and asked General Doan Khue to convey the kind regards of the Indian state and people to leaders of the Vietnamese state. On this occasion, General Doan Khue conveyed Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong's kind regards to leaders of the Indian Government. He thanked the Indian Vice President for his cordial reception and the Indian Armed Forces and people for their warm welcome.

On 10 November, the Vietnamese military delegation left New Delhi for Vietnam, concluding a successful official friendly visit to the Republic of India.

Do Muoi Congratulates Indian Prime Minister

BK1111152390 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 11—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi has congratulated Chandra Shekhar on his appointment as prime minister of India.

In his congratulatory message, Chairman Do Muoi wishes the Indian people further achievements in building India into a unified and prosperous country.

He also wishes the time-honoured friendship and multifaceted cooperation between Vietnam and India further consolidation and development in the interests of the two peoples, and for the sake of peace, stability and cooperation in Asia and the rest of the world.

Vo Chi Cong Congratulates Japanese Emperor

BK1111151090 Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT 11 Nov 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 11—President of the State Council Vo Chi Cong has extended congratulations to Japanese Emperor Akihito on his coronation.

In his message the Vietnamese leader wishes the Japanese royal family happiness, and the friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and Japan further development.

Leaders Send National Day Greetings to Angola

BK1011164490 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov.10—Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and President Vo Chi Cong today sent a joint message of greetings to Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, chairman of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (M.P.L.A) Workers' Party, and president of Angola, on the 15th independence day of Angola (Nov.11).

The message expresses the Vietnamese people's joy at the glorious achievements recorded by the Angolan people in the protection of the revolutionary gains, and highly appreciates Angola's great efforts and contributions to the struggle for peace, national independence and social progress in southern Africa.

It wishes the fraternal Angolan people, under the leadership of the M.P.L.A-Workers' Party and the Angolan Government greater achievements in national development.

Council of State Confers Titles on Teachers

BK1111065990 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Text] The Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training held a press conference in Hanoi on Friday, 9 November, to make public the State Council decision to confer the titles "People's Teacher" and "Outstanding Teacher" on 504 teachers and professors. The conferment was made in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the cause of education in Vietnam. Among these were 60 women teachers and 10 teachers of the ethnic minority.

Lang Son's Antismuggling Operations Noted

BK1011012590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 3 Nov 90

[Station Correspondent Dao Duc Tu's Article: "On a Road Section in Lang Son"]

[Summary] Soon after being introduced to the deputy director of the local customs service, we were taken on a fact-finding tour to gather information on the results of the antitax evasion and smuggling campaign in the border province of Lang Son.

As we were heading toward Dong Dang, our car was soon overtaken and left far behind by motorbike riders traveling in the same direction. Meanwhile, trucks and motorbikes loaded with goods were also rushing back from the opposite direction. At an open space across the border control post and tax collection point, large numbers of people with goods on their backs were moving back and forth like an army of ants, and big trucks and motorbikes were waiting for canned beers, oranges, apples, and other consumer goods brought back from the other side of the border area.

According to the Border Control Post 17 Command, "so far, each month, the post has collected 30 million dong in taxes from the trading of noncommercial goods across this border area where people have countless ways to smuggle in lots of merchandise without having to pay taxes."

In addition to coping with tax evasion, members of the Lang Son Special Antismuggling Team 1 have devoted special efforts to containing copper drain. "On many occasions, they had to resort to the martial arts to deal with smuggling ringleaders." Confiscated items included cables, artillery shells, engine cases, and a host of other things made of copper." "Transportation has been secured by buses, trucks, and motorbikes" and "various types of weapons, including knives and hammers, have been used to confront law enforcement officers."

The following are some tricks used by smugglers: The frames of motorbikes are replaced with new parts so copper can be hidden without being detected. Once, a bus carrying some 40-50 women was stopped for inspection. As an officer in charge slightly knocked on a woman's chest, he heard the flat sound of metal. Many women have wrapped some parts of their bodies with cables.

In addition to the supply of quality communications and transportation means, an incentive policy has been applied to encourage law enforcement officers to better perform their round-the-clock antitax evasion and smuggling duties in this important part of Lang Son Province.

Multiparty, One-Party Ruling Systems Discussed

Part One

BK1211084190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 7 Nov 90

[First part of Tran Duy Huong article: "Class Character of a State and the Issue of Multiparty or One-Party Ruling Systems"]

[Summary] The bourgeoisie and opportunism have, for quite a long time, claimed that the people's democratic state represents all classes in society and is an organ for regulating interests of these classes. Recently, the international reactionary forces and opportunism have vociferously repeated these reactionary allegations.

"Taking advantage of the prevalent shortcomings experienced by socialist states and mistakes made by communist parties, the international reactionary forces and opportunism incited the people to rise up to eliminate the proletarian state, implement a multiparty system, and restore the dictatorship of the people—the gist of democracy."

Many communists—seeing progress made by capitalist countries in economic, scientific, and technological domains—have mistakenly concluded that modern capitalism has changed its course and that capitalist states have changed their forms to oppose war, stop exploitation, and promote democracy, humanitarianism, equality, and freedom.

"One may ask whether the Marxist-Leninist concept of the class character of a state is obsolete? No, it is not so. Genuine followers of Marxist-Leninist doctrine affirmed that at the present stage this Marxist-Leninist concept is still applicable. The history of mankind's society since the classification of different classes is the struggle of classes to set up states to rule themselves. The state symbolizes a certain class character. When the bourgeoisie implements a multiparty system—no matter how many parties—they are bourgeois parties taking turns to rule the nation and protect the interests of different capitalist groups in that society. This type of state, in whatever term, is the state of the bourgeoisie."

The existence of the communist or worker parties in the bourgeois system was due to the laboring people's struggle. These parties were allowed, however, to carry out their activities in the framework of the law of a bourgeois state.

"In determining the class character of a state, we cannot base our judgment simply on its organizational form or the statements of its rulers. We must study the policies of that state to see whose interests they were formulated to protect and whether the nation is built in a socialist or capitalist direction.

"Socialism is the most advanced system in the history of mankind. It is the system established by the laboring people themselves. A state based on this system, in whatever form, is the state of the working class—a state of the people, by the people, and for the people. It is the state that will protect not only the interests of the working class but also the interests of all laboring people.

"Socialism came into being beginning with the Soviet October Revolution in 1917 and became the world's system after World War II. It has strongly influenced the people's struggle for national independence, freedom, and social progress in many countries during the past several decades. Socialism was realized in dozens of countries, which together comprise one-third of the world's population and was worshipped by many third-world nations as their inevitable future system—in which a new social relationship is formed without the oppressors and those being oppressed and in which a new lifestyle is emerging on the basis of social justice.

"In its developing process, socialism has recently experienced shortcomings and mistakes. Nevertheless, restructuring, reform, and renovation have been carried out to overcome these weaknesses. It is irrational to reject socialism because of this."

Although it is a process of mankind's developmental phenomena, capitalism has created many serious disasters for the world, including two world wars in the first half of this century. Although capitalism quickly achieves results from scientific-technological innovations and progress in production and materialism, basically it is not a solution for mankind to get rid of repression, exploitation, racism, and hostility.

As a result, the state of the working class will undoubtedly follow the path of scientific socialism, although it has to carry out arduous restructuring, reform, and renovation to achieve the most suitable socialist model. Meanwhile, a degenerate state that has shifted to a bourgoeis system will sooner or later choose the capitalist path.

"The objective of the proletarian class is to build a classless society free from repression and exploitation in which all will live in equality, freedom, and happiness. The proletarian state has done and is doing all it can to achieve this goal. This is the real character of the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat."

Part Two

BK1211162590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 8 Nov 90

[Second part of Tran Duy Huong article: "Class Character of a State and the Issue of Multiparty or One-Party Ruling Systems"]

[Summary] "Bourgeois philosophers tend to use the multiparty or one-party system as the premise for justifying the so-called democracy of a bourgeois state and condemning the dictatorship of the proletariat. They consider the multiparty system a democracy and the one-party system a dictatorship. Opportunitists in some communist parties are also known to have acquired similar concepts. These people claim democracy cannot exist without a multiparty system.

"First of all, we must affirm that the capitalist system of private ownership of the means of production and competition in and exploitation of surplus value are part of the bourgoisie's inborn nature and that capitalism cannot flourish without competition in and exploitation of surplus value."

In the process of competition, the interests of various capitalist groups differ from each other, thus giving rise to different parties. They will unite the interests of the bourgeoisie in general, especially when it comes to struggling against the working class, against a proletarian state, or against other nations—both capitalist and socialist.

"Competition always exists, however, among the capitalist groups themselves, with the victor being the group that can control more capitalists and the party of that group being the one that holds his power and administers society. In this respect, it is true that the multiparty system is a symbol of democracy. That is a bourgeois-style of democracy."

The proletariat's interests are fundamentally collective and based on the system of public ownership of the means of production. Although other forms of ownership still exist in the process of development, they do exist under the orientations of socialism. "Therefore, the proletariat can mold a unified political nature and can ensure a unified objective for its struggle, not only on a national scale but also on a worldwide scale. Therefore, favorable conditions have been created for the proletariat to form a harmonious political party. In fact, in addition to an internationally unified organizational structure, it has already formed a harmonious political party in every nation."

"The proletariat is also a class that represents the interests of every laborer. That is why its party, although a single party, still can represent the majority of the people in society." It is not a multiparty system nor a one-party system that decides the issue of democracy or dictatorship. It is natural for a state to adopt a dictorial attitude toward its opponents.

"In our country, the state of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam—now the state of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam—was established thanks to the success of the August 1945 Revolution. That is the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia that manifests the class nature and represents the interests of the entire people and nation. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, that state successfully established the people's democratic system and organized the resistance against the French."

"When half the country was totally liberated, the people's democratic state launched the socialist revolution in the north and successfully caried out the resistance against the Americans throughout the country, thereby unifying and advancing the country to socialism.

"In the process of building socialism in our country as well as in other fraternal socialist countries, there are shortcomings and errors, including serious errors that have distorted socialism. We still, however, have sufficient theoretical and practical grounds to affirm that socialism has always been and will always be a decisive factor in the success of our revolution."

Today, thanks to the process of renovation outlined by the sixth party congress and various party central committee plenums, our people have been able to bring about initial results.

We do accept political pluralism or a multiparty system. Our country is still rife with difficulties, and many other socialist countries are undergoing complex changes unfavorable to the cause of revolution and peace. With the leadership of the Communist Party and with the unanimity and revolutionary impetus of the entire people, our state is determined to firmly maintain the revolutionary nature of the working class.

Decline of Army Unit Food Production Viewed

Part One

BK1111092490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 7 Nov 90

[First part of essay by correspondent Nguyen Van Nhung on the decline in food production by grass-roots army units]

[Summary] The realities of the effort to ensure the livelihood of troops among grass-roots units in recent months can affirm that it is a positive change to shift the method of supplying in kind to the method of supplying on the basis of monetary computation the food ration supply for troops. This has created favorable conditions for various units to take the initiative in devising plans for ensuring daily meals for their troops. "After this new method of ensuring food supply for troops was put into practice, a marked decline in self-sufficient food production has been reported among all grass-roots units."

"According to the data of our reports, in the first half of this year, the Quyet Thang divisional group harvested nearly 65 metric tons of grain, attaining an average per capita distribution of 3.2 kg and fulfilling only 40 percent of the annual target. As for fresh vegetables, the divisional group harvested around 460 metric tons. This figure shows an average per capita production of 23 kg and 25 percent of the annual plan norm, or only 80 percent of the area harvested during the same period last year.

"The Huong Giang divisional group could provide only seven or eight kg of fresh vegetables monthly for each person despite the fact that its per capita distribution norm was 10 kg. The monthly per capita fresh vegetable distribution of group B-06 was much lower at only three kg." The divisional group also failed to fulfill the planned norms for livestock breeding and starch production."

Many people have simply thought that in the new method of ensuring daily meals for troops, all food rations, including fresh vegetable rations, have been computed into money, thus making it possible for troops to have enough grain and food for their daily consumption without the need to increase production. Some logistic unit commanders said: "By devoting one workday to increasing self-sufficient production, a soldier can produce only three kg of paddy or five to seven kg of vegetables at the most. On the contrary, by going into the forest to collect firewood for sale, a soldier can earn as much as 3,000 dong per workday. Therefore, to improve daily meals for troops, it is better for us to engage intensively in economic work." This sounded logical at first. It turned out to be a simple and impractical concept, however, when put into practice.

In our exchange of views with some commanding cadres of the logistic service of grass-roots units, we asked whether economic work could contribute to the daily meals of troops. The answer was that it could not.

Major Bui Van Binh, director of the logistic service of the 299th Engineer Brigade of the Quyet Thang divisional group, said: "As a unit known for its good economic work performance, the 299th brigade can collect hundreds of millions of dong each year. However, that amount of money cannot be used to cover expenses involving daily meals. It is only enough for activities in celebration of a few anniversaries each year."

It is also necessary to affirm further that increasing self-sufficient production not only remains a valuable tradition in our Army but also an important task for all units in the entire Army at present. By increasing self-sufficient production, we can help turn out more material wealth for society as well as help regulate market prices, make the fullest use of the troops' idle time, and help the cadres and soldiers uphold a sense of responsibility.

Part Two

BK1211104990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 12 Nov 90

[Second and last part of essay by correspondent Nguyen Van Nhung on the decline in food production by grass-roots army units]

[Summary] "Despite shortages of seeds and capital, our troops' movement to increase production has met with basically favorable conditions, namely labor and land which are currently the decisive factors and great potentials in units." Moreover, large numbers of cadres and combatants have joined the movement because their products have been appreciated and adequately accounted for. Excluding pilot units that have received many investments from the ministry and military region and army corps headquarters, many other units have also maintained their movement well and contributed to stabilizing and improving troops' diet.

"The 299th Engineer Brigade is among the leading units under the movement to increase production of the Quyet Thang Divisional Group. In the first half of this year, each person has produced an average of 25 kg of vegetables, nearly one kg of peanuts amd 2.5 kg of meat, somewhat overfulfilling the prescribed norms." As a result, the brigade has been able to increase per capita daily meat consumption from 60 g to 80 g.

Although 18th Regiment of B-25 Group is not a pilot unit, it has taken the lead in grain and other foodstuff production in the first half of the year. "It has raised 17 oxen, 12 goats, five water buffaloes, 30 pigs, and 50,000 fingerlings." As for green vegetables, it has reached a per capita monthly production of 9.1 kg.

Though recently returned from Cambodia, the C Group of Cuu Long Regiment has quickly stabilized its mess and lodging facilities and accelerated the production of grain and other foodstuffs. In addition to some areas of cultivated crops, the group has raised 15 sows and hundreds of meat hogs.

The above-mentioned achievements are attributed to the fact that unit commanders have actually started the work themselves. Formerly, during the time of subsidies, higher commands used to take care of production. As a result, the results of production were neglected. Now due to decentralization, production is linked closely to the responsibility and benefits of units. The task of increasing production cannot be unconditionally entrusted to the logistical branch. Units commanders still remain those who bear the brunt of this responsibility for effective production.

The Huong Giang Divisional Group has once opposed its prescribed norms for animal raising and crop cultivation. "However, due to the availability of large pieces land, ample leisure time of troops, and high costs of grain and food products in the locality, the group commander has decided to prescribe norms for raising livestock and planting crops. He himself has set the example of achieving the prescribed norms and closely controlled the work. As a result, the movement to increase production in the group is regularly maintained."

The movement to increase production requires that crop schedules must be closely observed. Yet, shortages of capital, seeds, feed, and fertilizer have hampered many units. If close guidance and leadership is not provided, the various branches of finance, quartermaster, and production will certainly meet with difficulties.

"Experience of units where the movement to increase production has progressed well shows that there must be knowledge in selecting crop patterns and proper production scales to make livestock raising and crop cultivation fruitful." Units in midlands and mountainous regions must raise herds of oxen, buffaloes and goats while those units stationed in plains and river deltas can make the most of available water surface to raise pigs and fish. Those units which have more favorable conditions, can grow short-term crops. As for the scales of production, units must be organized compactly to suit their own conditions and management standards.

"At present, mess is provided in most battalions. Therefore, the VAC [garden, fish pond, and stable] pattern must also be mainly applied to battalions."

To encourage efforts to increase production, the tasks of managing, distributing, and using products must be performed well. Owing to the recently applied one-price system, products have been better appreciated and used properly for troops, encouraging large numbers of cadres and combatants to join the production movement.

Through the aforementioned units' achievements, we can assert that despite many difficulties, production can always be increased when cadres and combatants have truly realized the need to improve the troops' diet.

Article Discusses Taxes, Army's Daily Meals

Part One

BK1111105990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 7 Nov 90

[First part of article by Lieutenant Colonel Lai Ngoc Hai in October 1990 issue of TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN: "Agricultural Taxes, the Commodity Economy in Agriculture, and the Need To Ensure Food Supply for the Army"]

[Summary] Following the promulgation of the Political Bureau Resolution 10 on renovating the management of agriculture, there have been initial results from using part of the agricultural taxes to ensure food supply for the Army. Realities, however, testify to the need for in-depth studies and better solutions to meet the Army's grain requirements.

"First of all, it is necessary to see that the state budget receives all the agricultural taxes paid by the 9 million peasant households in 44 provinces, cities, and special sectors throughout the country." This way, part of these taxes can be used to provide the Army with enough daily food supplies and sufficient grain reserves for training, combat readiness, and fighting purposes.

Under the old management mechanism, the agricultural tax collection service consisted of a network of 16,985 cooperatives and 38,293 agricultural production collectives. At present, thanks to a new management system, there has been marked progress in fulfilling agricultural tax collection targets. Nonetheless, agricultural tax payment discrepancies still remain.

"According to statistics from the Ministry of Finance, agricultural taxes in terms of paddy equivalent owed by various localities to the state for the three consecutive years of 1986-1988, have reached 312,000 tons. Noteworthy is the fact that the main cause of this tax collection shortfall does not rest with the peasants' failure to fulfill their obligation to the state."

"Of the 312,000-ton shortfall, the northern provinces owe 35,185 tons, or 11.27 percent, and the southern provinces, 276,824 tons, or 88.73 percent of the total grain debt. Of the eight provinces with the highest grain debt, six provinces are in the Mekong River Delta, which is regarded as the nation's rice bowl."

"The main cause of this tax payment discrepancy can be traced back to the failure to scrupulously comply with the regulations on collecting and remitting agricultural taxes to the state." As concrete evidence of this unhealthy situation, one can cite the fact that "many provinces spent the collected taxes at their discretion." For example, Long An Province made unauthorized use of as much as 800 million dong in agricultural taxes, or 3,200 tons in terms of paddy equivalent.

"Slow tax remittance has had an adverse impact on the consolidation of the all-people national defense work and also shows a failure to fully grasp the sixth party congress's concept of all-people participation in the task of building and defending the fatherland."

Secondly, as far as the 1989 fifth-month spring rice crop is concerned, the Council of Ministers has permitted a number of localities to conduct a pilot program that allows agricultural taxes to be paid in cash based on the effective and reasonable price in each locality. This pilot program has yielded encouraging initial results, and many peasants believe the program has benefitted themselves and the state.

Nonetheless, since this is a new issue, one should make careful and thorough study before reaching a conclusion. "In our opinion, talking about collecting agricultural taxes in cash means talking about the art of determining and stabilizing the paddy prices as a whole and paddy for agricultural tax payments in particular." In other words, measures must be worked out to ensure a relatively stable pricing system and to guarantee that the paddy price is consistent with the overall pricing system when agricultural taxes are being paid.

"Realities from a number of localities participating in the program and the experiences of some countries in this area indicate that a stable pricing system is one of the necessary conditions for the application of this system."

Historically speaking, the system of collecting agricultural taxes partly in kind and partly in cash has already been applied in our country. "The problem here is as follows: If we apply the system of paying agricultural taxes in cash, how will we go about securing a sufficient grain supply for both the Army and the national grain reserve?"

In principle, cash alone cannot guarantee sufficient grain supplies for the Army and the national strategic grain reserve. In addition to supplies in kind, the state should allot part its budget to the Army so it can pay for the daily meals of troops through its own food catering service or through the contracts signed with the various corporations that provide food supplies for the Army.

Part Two

BK1211143790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 8 Nov 90

[Second part of article by Lieutenant Colonel Lai Ngoc Hai in October 1990 issue of TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN: "Agricultural Taxes, the Commodity Economy in Agriculture, and the Need To Ensure Food Supply for the Army"]

[Summary] Results of a pilot project undertaken by some army units indicate that there has been no problem in purchasing rice from local dealers to meet the Army's daily rice requirements. Thus, the Council of Ministers' decision on using part of agricultural taxes to guarantee the sources of grain supply for the army has helped improve the quality of troops' daily meals.

We would like to contribute the following ideas about how to guarantee conditions for strict implementation of the law on agricultural taxes and to promote agricultural production to better meet the Army's grain requirements:

1. "Whatever forms of tax collection one chooses—in cash, in kind, or a combination of the two—first of all, it is necessary to settle once for all the late tax payments by local peasants associations and to put an immediate end to the unauthorized use of taxes by collectives or private parties for commercial purposes not related to national defense work."

To this end, we must apply uniform economic, administrative, and educational measures. "Regarding economic measures, it is necessary to take stern action against peasants and administrative organs at all levels if they violate the regulations on paying and remitting agricultural taxes to the state."

In this connection, it is also important to formulate a rational reward and punishment policy toward tax officials and to allow peasants and the localities concerned to choose the most suitable forms of tax payment to fulfill their obligation to the state. "The general guiding principle would be like this: Let the state create the most favorable conditions for peasants to fulfill their obligation and let peasants satisfactorily fulfill their duty in accordance with the law on agricultural taxes."

"As far as administrative measures are concerned, it is necessary to take strong action against collectives and private parties who make unauthorized use of taxes that should be remitted to the state budget. If necessary, very strong legal action must be taken against deliberate violations. To end tax payment discrepancies among peasant households, action must be taken against cadres and party members who refuse or are late to pay taxes first; if necessary, legal proceedings must be initiated against them."

In addition to the above-mentioned measures, educational activities are needed to help peasants and cadres in charge of collecting agricultural taxes fully realize their obligation to comply with the regulations on paying and remitting taxes to the state. This is part of the concrete measures aimed at helping the people understand their duty to help with the consolidation of the all-people national defense system. Administrative organs at all levels, especially the grass-roots level, should understand that the collection of agricultural taxes is part of the regular political activities in support of national construction and national defense.

2. "Along with proper tax collection services, efforts must be made to learn how to make the new system of grain supply for the Army consistent with the present situation." In this connection, it is advisable for the state to let the Army decide on the forms of supply—cash, paddy, or a combination of the two—as well as the methods of supply to meet the Armed Forces' grain requirements."

3. "A pilot project should be conducted to enable the Army to learn from the experiences in calling bids for grain supply." This move may yield higher economic results. All grain supply corporations and localities should be allowed to participate in the bidding. Of course, the successful candidates should consist mainly of state-operated organizations and collectives." Because this is an important and complicated issue, one should make careful and thorough study, however, before reaching a conclusion.

"Finally, together with the above-mentioned measures, the state should make sure it has sufficient grain reserves at its disposal to meet the unexpected growing grain requirements time of war." Special attention must be paid to anticipating the grain supply for the first months and years of the war when the Armed Forces' grain requirements are expected to increase tremendously due to major troop deployments.

In summary, as far as tax collection and grain supply for the Army are concerned, one must apply a common guideline as follows: "Taxes must be collected in due amounts and promptly remitted to the state budget." In this way, there will exist conditions for the People's Army to build and develop its strength and to stand always ready for combat.

Agricultural Production Reported Nationwide

BK1111070890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 Nov 90

[Summary] "Thanks to favorable weather conditions last week, peasants throughout the country were able to speed up the harvest of 10th-month rice and planting of the winter-spring crop. As of 5 November, northern provinces had harvested 853,000 hectares of 10th-month rice or 70 percent of the planted areas. Leading in the task were Ha Son Binh and Thai Binh Provinces, which harvested respectively 89 and 80 percent of their planted ricefields."

Generally speaking, the main and late 10th-month rice crops attained a better yield compared with the early 10th-month rice crop. The northern provinces also planted 240,000 hectares of the winter crops, 30,000 hectares more than the corresponding period last year.

"Southern provinces, during the same period, have planted more than 1.4 million hectares of the 10th-month rice, exceeding the plan norm by 2.8 percent.

"In the next 10 days, northern provinces should strive to quickly harvest their 10th-month rice, continue to plant the winter crops to offset poor yield collected from some crops in recent months, and produce more rice seedlings for the early and main spring rice crops as scheduled.

"Southern provinces, meanwhile, should care for their 10th-month rice and speed up the planting of the winter-spring crop, one of the most productive crops of the year."

Rice Prices in Hanoi 'Relatively Stable'

BK1011020690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 8 Nov 90

[Text] After a sudden spate of increases in grain prices in Hanoi during the last few days of October, the price of rice has relatively stabilized in the first week of November, with ordinary rice selling for 1,300-1,400 dong per kilogram and quality rice for 1,500-1,600 per kilogram. State-operated food stores have put their reserve rice stock up for sale, with quality rice priced at 1,300-1,500 dong per kilogram.

Generally speaking, rice prices in Hanoi are still high but relatively stable. In other localities, rice prices also remain at the level of 1,200-1,500 dong per kilogram, depending on quality.

Air Lane Under Construction at Noi Bai Airport

BK1011012090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 8 Nov 90

[Text] The Ministry of Communications, Transportation, Posts and Telegraph is urgently building an air lane at the Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi. The new lane will run parallel to the existing one to increase the capacity of the international airport in the capital.

The project consists of 3,000 meters of air lane and a water drainage system for the airport with a planning investment capital for 1990 of 8.7 billion dong. The project will be finished in 1991.

The Ministry of Communication, Transportation, Post and Telegraph invited tenders for the construction of the project. There were 11 construction units in and out of the ministry taking part in the bid. Three units: the Transportation Construction Federated Corporation No. 1, the No. 11 Army Corps, and the Thang Long Bridge Construction Federated Corporation were successful in construction on a separate category of the project.

This is the first big construction project of the Ministry of Communication, Transportation, Post and Telegraph being done by tendering.

Australia

Territorial Limit Extended to 12 Nautical Miles

BK1311075490 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Nov 90

[Text] Australia is formally extending its territorial limit from three to 12 nautical miles. The federal government is to issue a proclamation extending Australian sovereignty over its water, seabed, and airspace from the 20th of this month.

The foreign affairs minister, Senator Gareth Evans, and the attorney general, Mr. Michael Duffy, say the 12-mile limit is well established internationally and it has significant advantages for Australia. The minister says they will be able to better control the marine environment, enforce pollution measures, and regulate navigation.

Fiji

Pacific Nations Want Neighbours' Aid in Energy

BK1411161790 Hong Kong AFP in English 1546 GMT 14 Nov 90

[By Davendra Sharma]

[Text] Suva, Nov 14 (AFP)—Officials attending the Pacific 2000 Conference on energy here called on their rich neighbours Wednesday to research new renewable energy sources for them following the rise in oil prices as a result of the Gulf crisis.

Western Samoan Finance Minister Tuilaepa Sailele told the Conference on Marine Energy and Mineral Resources that rich Pacific nations such as Japan and the United States should develop renewable energy systems for poor island states. "The richer nations along the Pacific Rim should finance the research and development of renewable energy systems for the Pacific Islands," he said, but warned of possible dangers that could accompany the help from rich countries.

"The islands are swimming in a sea of resources, but there are also sharks in that water," he said. "Among those have been disreputable consultants who have cost island governments millions of dollars."

The conference, hosted by the U.S.-backed Pacific Islands Association and the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific, discussed alternative energy sources and prospects for mining the Pacific seabed.

Fiji's Trade and Commerce Minister Berenado Vunibobo said the Gulf crisis gave island states no choice but to review their energy sources. "How much dependence on foreign oil can the islands tolerate?" He asked.

Officials from the Cook Islands said it was up to the Pacific nations to develop their own energy resources. "It is not in the interests of industrialised nations to develop renewable energy since they have other options," said Cook Islands Deputy Premier Inatio Akaruru. "It is entirely up to us to develop the projects that are necessary for our own energy requirements."

Officials from Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Tonga and Nauru also attended the conference.

Ronald Hays, former commander-in-chief of U.S. Pacific Forces and president of the Hawaii-based Pacific International Center for High Technology Research, said the island states "could kick the oil habit if we really want to. "The islands have oceans with unlimited energy, abundant sunshine, a year-round biomass growing, steady tradewinds and sources of geothermal energy," he said, adding that ocean thermo-energy was another potential power source.

Biomass involves transforming the energy found in plants and garbage, geothermal energy is using the earth's heat, and ocean thermo-energy involves using the tempature differential between the ocean's surface and depths to drive electrical turbines.

Details of aid packages promised by U.S. President George Bush at the recent Pacific summit in Honolulu were expected to be unveiled Thursday, as was a new U.N. report on the disastrous effects of driftnet fishing.

Mr. Bush this week assured Pacific Island leaders at the summit earlier this week that he would take regional concerns "seriously, and look forward to future consultations." In a letter to Fiji's Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, Mr. Bush said he had instructed his ambassador here to "provide further details at the summit" and that he would be "forwarding scientific data on climatic changes."

New Zealand

Foreign Minister Condemns French Nuclear Test

BK1511042290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0410 GMT 15 Nov 90

[Text] Wellington, Nov 15 (AFP)—New Zealand's new Foreign Minister Don McKinnon Thursday condemned the latest French nuclear test. Mr. McKinnon said it was sad that one of his first duties should be to speak out against the test.

"I want to make it clear the National (Party) government opposes nuclear testing in our region," he said in a statement. "We want good relations with France and there are many areas where our two countries have worked closely in the past," he said. "So it is all the more disappointing when a country which we regard as a freind continues to ignore the concerns of New Zealanders and of all the people in the South Pacific."

New Zealand's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research monitored a blast on Fangataufa in French Polynesia Thursday with an an estimated yield of 120 kilotons.